



Seven combines and four semis helping to take off the Harvest of Hope wheat crop on Friday with proceeds from the project going to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank which helps to alleviate world hunger. The Harvest of Hope field is located just north of Moosomin.

Harvest of Hope takes crop off for Foodgrains Bank

The Harvest of Hope took place on Friday, with seven combines taking off a field of wheat just north of Moosomin. Proceeds from the harvest will be donated to the

somin. Proceeds from the harvest will be donated to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

The combines rolled at around 12:30 pm with Conexus Credit Union volunteering to serve a lunch in the field to volunteers and farmers who came out to help. Canadian Foodgrains Saskatchewan Representative Rick Block was on hand at the event to watch the combines roll and to enjoy lunch in the field. He thanked the volunteers and organizers with the Harvest of Hope. Following is a question and answer with Block on the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and its work

Canadian Foodgrains Bank and its work

Can you describe your work with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Along with my wife Jacquie, we are the Saskatchewan Representatives for the Foodgrains Bank, and our role is to connect with supporters of the Foodgrains Bank (individuals, businesses, churches, schools), help facilitate learning about hunger and its impacts around the world, and communicate the stories of what people in Saskatchewan are doing to support Canada's international role in providing relief and development.

How many projects are on the go this year in the area you represent?

In Saskatchewan there were 32 growing projects donating the proceeds from more than 3,500 acres of cropland in 2021. The Foodgrains Bank deeply appre-

cropland in 2021. The Foodgrains Bank deeply appreciates working together with rural families, businesses, churches and schools to help alleviate situations of severe hunger around the world.

The 280-acre Harvest of Hope Moosomin is a group that has a wealth of practical and professional experience in the ag sector. They also have key partnerships and support from people, businesses, and churches in the surrounding community. On a personal note, I see the joy and purpose that resonate from the members of the group, as they work together each year to plan, grow and sell a crop—as well, it's inspiring to see and hear about their commitment and motivations for why they take part in this project. they take part in this project.

How has the pandemic impacted the work of the

Covid-19 has certainly exasperated hunger in many developing nations, particularly for the populations that may not have work and rely on daily/weekly income for their sustenance. It seems it has also stirred people's realization of our dependence on a food system that functions, and highlights our connection back to agriculture and those that steward the land. Growing projects have not really been affected that much by Covid, which has been a blessing for the Foodgrains Bank in terms of resources raised to help with the need that exists internationally.

How does the Foodgrains Bank respond to needs around the world during a pandemic?
A big question, with lots of complexities! I've actually pasted three stories from the past six months that speak to this, you can see that the nature of the stories moves from analysis (April) to action (June, August).

See inside on pages B5, B19 and B25 for these articles and see page B16 for more photos from this year's Harvest of Hope.

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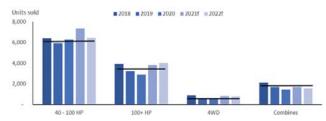


Figure 1: Manufacturing sales projected to soften in 2022 Sources: Association of Equipment Manufacturers and FCC calculations.

Farm equipment outlook strong amid production challenges

LEIGH ANDERSON

SENIOR ECONOMIST WITH FCC

Overall demand for farm equipment is projected to remain strong due to a combi-nation of elevated grain and oilseed prices and low interest rates. However, drought in Western Canada and supply chain disrup-tions create uncertainty for 2022.

New farm equipment sales from manufactures are robust After Covid-driven market uncertainty,

After Covid-driven market uncertamty, 2021 has brought optimism for the farm equipment market as demand from both producers and retailers increased. On the farm, strengthening commodity prices and increased delivery opportunities resulted in crop receipts increasing 10.9% in 2020 and 18.1% in the first half of 2021. Livestock registres are also recovering in 2021 (YTD in recipts are also recovering in 2021 (YTD increase of 12.7%), resulting in strong pre-orders of farm equipment. At the dealer level, strong demand for farm equipment in 2020 significantly reduced new and used inventories, creating further opportunities for man-

ufacturing sales.

New farm equipment manufacturing sales increased 33.6% through the first seven

months of 2021. Multiple equipment seg-ments are strong: Canadian dealer purchases of new 4WD tractors, 100+ HP tractors and combines are up 62.8%, 46.8%, and 33.2%, respectively, in the first seven months of 2021.

Sales for the remainder

of 2021 expected to remain strong
Farm equipment sales will remain strong
through the remainder of 2021, and the beginning part of 2022 (Figure 1) as many purchasing decisions for new equipment have
already been made.

aiready been made.
Farm equipment sales from manufacturers are expected to weaken later in 2022 due to an estimated 25.6% decline in principal field crop production in western Canada and high feed costs, challenging profitability and leading producers to reconsider future investments.

Additionally shortness of experience in the contraction of the contr

Additionally, shortages of semiconductors Additionally, shortages of semiconductors could result in higher farm equipment prices and delays in delivery of pre-orders, further impacting sales. Despite softer farm equipment sales, all equipment categories in 2022 (except for combines) are projected to trend above their 5-year average (2016-2020).

Continued on page B20 138

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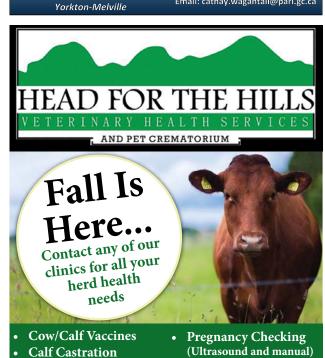
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B5

An unprecedented year of working toward a world without hunger

Each summer, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank reflects on the year behind them and what the Foodgrains Bank network has achieved in its mission of ending world hunger. This year's report focuses on telling the story of how the global pandemic, an emergency none of us expected to encounter, has shaped this response to hunger.

In 2020-21, The Canadian Foodgrains Bank provided assistance for 989,000 people in 33 countries

tries.

Their members and their partners responded with dillgence and flexibility to the challenges of carrying on the work of responding to hunger through the pandemic.

In Syria, volunteers with Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue, the local partner of their member Mennonite Central Committee Canada, delivered food baskets to elderly households instead of having them come pick up in-person from a distribution site.

bution site.

In Kenya, families farming on small plots of land were supported in forming marketing and savings and loans groups. This helped them weather the impact of restrictions on movements that prevented them from being able offectively market their crops. Staff from the National Council of Churches in Kenya, supported through Foodgrains Bank member The United Church of Canada, implemented this project.

Responding to hunger in times of emergency

gency
Last year, funding was approved to provide emergency food to 217,000 people experiencing hunger in 18 countries.
This included respond-

ing to well-publicized disasters, such as the explosion in the Port of Beirut at the end of August and the ongoing conflict in Syria. It also included responding to less well-publicized disasters, such as the combined impacts of drought, the pandemic and economic instability in Zimbabwe.

"Things have been so difficult that even those who would normally help our family have nothing to give, and they too are hungry," says Mr. Mashamba of Gutu, Zimbabwe. "Even one meal a day was a struggle," he says.

"Even one meal a day was a struggle," he says.
Through Foodgrains Bank member ERDO and their partner Pentecostal Assemblies of Zimbabwe, Mr. Mashamba and his family received seven monthly rations of maize meal, beans and cooking oil to help them get through the lean season. "The program has meant that we have three meals a day," he says.

Creating long-term solutions to hunger

Last year, Foodgrains Bank approved funding to help 647,000 people facing long-term hunger and malnutrition in 21 countries. Their long-term development work focuses on supporting families' efforts to provide food for themselves. This includes helping rebuild livelihoods after a crisis, promoting sustainable farming practices, and working with communities to strengthen their ability to respond to natural disasters and a changing climate

changing climate.

They also wrapped up their five-year Scaling-Up Conservation Agriculture in East Africa program.

in East Africa program. A special \$2.3 million



Yemen is home to one of the greatest humanitarian emergencies of our time. Through our member The Christian and Missionary Alliance, we provided emergency food to families forced from their home by conflict and facing crisis levels of hunger.

matching grant from the government of Canada allowed them to help farmers in several African countries adapt to the economic impact of the pandemic. Foodgrains Bank supporters donated an additional \$700,000, bringing the total value of the program to \$3 million.

"As a mother, the expec-

"As a mother, the expectation in the African setting is to provide for the food needs irrespective of the situation," says Rose Mandhawun, of Kucwiny, Uganda. In normal years,

Rose provides food for her family by selling what she can grow on her plot of land. Due to restrictions on movement and market gatherings though, this year her income and ability to provide for her family suffered.

ily suffered.

Through a project of Foodgrains Bank member World Renew working through the Nebbi Diocese of the Church of Uganda, she received maize and bean seeds to help her continue supporting her family through farming.







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Ag in the Classroom receives support to develop Manitoba seed kit

The governments of Canada and Manitoba are providing \$84,000 for Ag in the Classroom–Manitoba (AITC-M) to develop a Manitoba Seed Kit, Ag-riculture and Resource Development Minister Ralph Eichler announced on Sep-

Eichler announced on September 23.

"As we celebrate Farm and Food Awareness Week in Manitoba, I am pleased to support the development of this educational tool that will help increase awareness about agriculture through the Ag in the Classroom program," said Classroom program," said Eichler.

"Our government's support for this program means more and more youth will have the opportunity to understand the importance of agriculture, the diversity of crops ture, the diversity of crops produced, modern farm-ing practices and the wide range of exciting career op-

The Manitoba Seed Kit



Ag in the Classroom is a non-profit, charitable organization with a mandate to connect students with agriculture through innovative, curriculum-based programs and resources. The seed kits will include 15 crops commonly grown in Manitoba, including barley, canola, sunflowers, wheat, soybeans, and wild rice.

will engage students in learning about the top cere-al, oil, specialty and pulse crops grown in Manitoba. Each Manitoba Seed Kit

will feature seed samples from 15 crops commonly grown in the province, as well as lesson plans for teachers linked to Grades 3 to 6. Some of the crops included are barley, canola, surplowers, wheat sover sunflowers, wheat, soy-beans and wild rice.

In addition, the kits will

include activities that expand the learning oppor-tunities to other subjects such as math, social stud-ies, health and science, and responds to the demand for hands-on learning resources that link students to agriculture in fun, curriculum-oriented ways.

"This is an excellent vehicle to connect students to agriculture and show how it is ingrained into their everyday lives," said Sue Clayton, executive director of AITC-M.

"We are so grateful to re-ceive this funding to help create these kits, which will ultimately increase agriculture literacy in more than 20,000 students each year. These students are Manitoba's future consumers, customers and decision-

The Manitoba Seed Kit will be available in Eng-lish and French. It will be a foundational resource for AITC-M that will allow for other activities and learnother activities and learning opportunities to be added in as the program grows. The completed kits will also include a seed-related book and will be distributed by industry volunteers in Manitoba as part of ATC Micropul part of AITC-M's annual Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month (CALM) program in March 2022.

Ag in the Classroom is a non-profit, charitable ora non-priority character of ganization with a mandate to connect students with agriculture through inno-vative, curriculum-based programs and resources. AITC-M partners with producers, industry and commodity organizations to provide teaching tools and resources to educators and students.

Funding for this initia-tive is provided under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, which is a five-year, \$3 billion invest-ment by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen and grow Canada's agri-food and agri-products sectors.

This commitment includes \$2 billion for programs cost-shared by federal and ederal and provincial/territorial governments that are designed and delivered by provinces and territo-



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USask research: Finding feed solutions for drought conditions

With a history dating back more than a century through five generations of Métis farmers, Megan Wasden has a deep appreciation and connection to the land.



Megan Wasden is a master's student in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan.

BY JAMES SHEWAGA

"The land is very special and very important to us, and that is a big part of being Indigenous," said the University of Saskatchewan (USask) Master of Science student in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources. "Our land that we still farm on has been in our family for over a hundred years and I plan to keep it in the family for many more generations. So it's very important and very special to me. We have farmed this land for many years and we

to me. We have farmed this land for many years and we have to keep producing off of it, so we have to treat it with respect for it to continue giving back to us."

As this year's drought conditions affected producers throughout the province, including dramatically reducing available feed for cattle ranchers, Wasden was working daily searching for more sustainable and hardier forage options that can survive and thrive in low moisture conditions. Wasden's work—under the guidance of her graduate supervisor Dr. Bart Lardner (PhD)—has been centred at USask's Livestock and Forage Centre of Excelence, with her research drawing attention from fellow scientists and producers alike.

scientists and producers alike.

"There is an awful lot of data being collected in this four-year field research study, but the real question in the agriculture community is, 'What is the right combination of forage species for pasture that producers can seed in their farm or ranch?' Are they perennial grass-legume mixtures? Or are they annual grass-legume mixtures? So that, in a nutshell, is her study," said Lardner.

At the LFCE test plots, USask researchers like Wasden are investigating the benefits of combining perennials and

are investigating the benefits of combining perennials and annuals in various mixes of grasses and legumes, everything from barley, alfalfa, hybrid bromegrass and peas, to fall rye and clover. Finding more sustainable, nutritious, cost-efficient forage mixes that also promote productive cattle growth while limiting methane emissions, would provide producers with better tools to withstand more frequent future drought conditions due to the effects of climate change across the Prairies.

Wasden's research has the notential to provide effective

Wasden's research has the potential to provide effective real-world solutions for producers, while also considering climate change, sustainability, water security and eco-

we are definitely seeing some systems that work well and some that do not," said Wasden, who is now crunching the numbers after two years of gathering research data to begin writing her thesis. "We want the plants to provide nutrition to allow young cattle to grow and gain weight. At the same time, it is important to be sustainable. And

nomic impacts.
"With changing (climate) conditions, we are looking specifically at which plants do better with less moisture and which can survive better in drought conditions, and

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with beef cattle production, we always have to consider the costs and the returns."

Wasden's graduate studies have been supported by two major scholarships at USask: the Indigenous Gradu-ate Leadership Award (\$16,000 plus two years of tuition) and the Keith Gilmore Foundation Prize for Beef Cattle Innovation (\$10,000) for advanced studies leading to a ca-

Innovation (\$10,000) for advanced studies leading to a career in the beef industry.

"I am very grateful to have been chosen to receive both of them. I cried when I got the emails about them, I was so happy," said Wasden, who also completed her bachelor's degree at USask. "They will help me immensely to afford the cost of tuition and living away from home. A lot of time students are placed under large amounts of stress just from being in school and one stress students shouldn't have to face is financial stress. So I can't thank the funders enough for these two scholarships."

Lardner said Wasden was most deserving of the financial support and is one of his most dedicated graduate students.

Continued on page B18 ™



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Prairie wheat research groups commit \$3.5 million to UM for wheat breeding activities

The Canadian Wheat Research Coalition (CWRC), alongside the Western Grains Research Foundation (WGRF) and the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission (SWCDC), have committed funding to a core breeding agreement with the University of Manitoba (UM). Valued at over \$3.5 million over five years, this agreement will ensure the continuation of the successful Fusarium head blight (FHB) nursery pro-gram, along with the winter wheat breeding program.

The primary objective for the UM's FHB screening nursery is to continue evaluating breeding lines for their reaction to Fusarium graminearum—the

most common causal agent of FHB.
As one of few FHB screening nurseries in Canada, the UM program returns vital information to the network of western Canadian breeding efforts, and is the key to developing future wheat varieties with FHB resistance. While the focus for win-ter wheat research will be the delivery of field ready cultivars, development of new genetic tools to help improve winter wheat quality will feature heavily.

The agreement, which is an increase of \$1.6 million over the previous core breeding agreement, also includes the training of students as future scientists in wheat

Known for her contributions to FHB



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research, UM's long-time winter wheat breeder Dr. Anita Brûlé-Babel is set to re-tire this December, with Dr. Curt McCartney assuming the role. Prior to joining the UM, McCartney was a research scientist at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) in Morden, Manitoba, where he focused on cereal genetics targeting re-sistance to FHB, leaf and stem rust, and orange wheat blossom midge.

orange wheat blossom midge.
"This foundational funding of UM's wheat breeding program ensures the continued evaluation of FHB resistance of breeding lines from across the Prairies," says McCartney. "Dr. Brûlé-Babel's research has been critically important for the continuation of the program developing varieties with improved FHB resistance and has provided excellent training for graduate students. With this new agreement, I plan to build upon her successes through the development and implementation of genomics-assisted breeding techniques."

The CWRC is a collaboration between the Alberta Wheat Commission, Sas-katchewan Wheat Development Commission and the Manitoba Crop Alliance with a focus on funding genetic and ag-ronomic wheat research for western Canadian farmers.

The UM agreement represents the fourth and final core funding agreement with the public wheat breeding programs

in Western Canada.

Previously announced agreements include \$22.6 million to AAFC, \$9.6 million to the University of Saskatchewan's Crop Development Centre, and \$2 million to the University of Alberta. These core agreements provide support to key capacity in the breeding programs.

In recognition of the winter wheat and FHB focus of the UM program, WGRF and SWCDC are providing \$935,000 and \$50,000, respectively, over the term of the





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Above: The Elva Lake of the Woods elevator as it stands today.

Left: Donna Anderson gives the history of Elva's Lake of the Woods elevator

Dedication held for Elva Lake of the Woods elevator replica

BY DONNA ANDERSON

On Saturday, September 18, about 65 people gathered together in Elva, Manitoba to partake in the dedication of the replica of the Lake of the Woods elevator.

Elva is located in the southwest corner of Manitoba in the Rural Municipality of Two Borders halfway between the towns of Melita and Pierson on the active CPR line.

Donna Anderson, who grew up in the Elva district welcomed everyone. Donna gave the brief history of the elevator. She also explained that it was Mary Wang, also a former Elva resident, who had the idea to have a replica built. She did a lot

of research and contacted David Huish of Gainsborough, Saskatchewan to design and build the elevator on a third scale of the original elevator, which is remarkably still standing! Donna thanked Mary for undertaking such a significant project.

This summer a few local fellows, namely

Bob Patterson, Tyler Patterson, Delnor Davies and Jim Reddaway, had been busy preparing for this day. They not only built a cement base for this elevator and carefully placed it upon the pad, but they also repaired and painted the fence around this location, painted the Elva sign, maintained the grass, pressure washed the school cairn

and put up a new flag. These jobs and upkeep are very much appreciated. The sum of \$750 was gratefully received from the

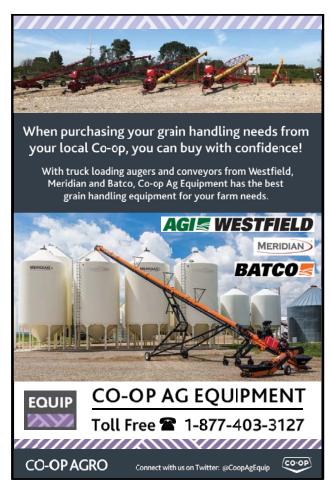
RM of Two Borders for this replica as well.
The history of Elva's Lake of the Woods grain elevator is very interesting. It is a wooden structure in the village of Elva, on the Canadian Pacific Railway Estevan Sub-division in the RM of Two Borders.

The elevator's construction dates somewhere between 1892 and 1899 and displays a characteristic squat style which was used prior to 1910. This squat style design is quite different from other prairie elevators. It was built by the Lake of the Woods Mill-

ing Company of Winnipeg.
Since the 1890s there have been few improvements to the building. Around 1950 it was partially rebuilt with a new foundation and a new scale installed. Soon after, tion and a few scale instance. Soon area, it became managed by the Ogilvie Milling Company when that company merged with Lake of the Woods Co. in 1954. In 1959, it was purchased by Manitoba Pool Elevators

By the late 1960s this little elevator was just too small and inefficient compared to the larger ones built at that time. It closed in 1968 and was sold to a farmer.

Continued on page B11 ™





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Above: The front view of the Lake of the Woods Elva elevator replica.

Left: Mary Wang, Donna Anderson, Jim Reddaway, Bob Patterson, Delnor Davies and Tyler Patterson at the Elva Lake of the Woods Elevator replica dedication on September 18.

Dedication held for Elva Lake of the Woods elevator replica

™ Continued from page B10

Despite its changing of hands several times, the title on the side of the building still reflects its original ownership by Lake of the Woods Milling Company.

This particular elevator is believed to be Canada's oldest standing grain elevators at the recent time.

tor at the present time. It is impressive that it has managed to survive for well over a

After the destruction of the Fleming elevator in Saskatchewan in 2010, the site of the oldest elevator in Canada became

the small hamlet of Elva, Manitoba. At this time this Lake of the Woods elevator should have been designated as an historic site, however, sadly, no effort to preserve the elevator has taken place. Demolition is in site. Therefore, this is why the replica of our little elevator is so important and spe-

As a special note, one agent whom a lot of the people attending this dedication knew and will remember was Vic Higgins. Vic was the Lake of the Woods elevator agent in Elva from 1951 to 1956. The Higgins' lived in Elva for many years. After that it was an A. Potter and then R. Mur-

That it was an A. Potter and then K. Murray Hagyard until it closed.

Donna then handed the microphone over to Mary Wang who explained that she just could not stand the thought of nothing being done about the preservation of this great monarch, so she took it upon herself to hire David Huish to construct a replica of it And he did a yery fire ich inreplica of it. And he did a very fine job indeed with extreme attention to detail.

Grain elevators are an age-old symbol of western Canada. The elevator was and still is, the link between the farmer and the grain market, providing storage and serv-

ing as a shipping centre for bulk grain.

The people of Elva and surrounding districts can be very proud of the designated and well cared for place where not only the devaytor swilling stands here here. only the elevator replica stands, but also a beautiful sign which was erected after the very successful Elva School Reunion held July 2012 and also a stone cairn dedicated to the pioneers of the Elva district and the former Elva schools at a dedication ceremony held October 15, 1989.



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Firing up the **Johnny Cash Special**

By Ryan Stanko
On Thursday, September
9, Ken Mack started up the
Johnny Cash Special. Ken
puts on an annual old-time
threshing demonstration
at his farm northeast of
Langenburg. He uses vintage equipment to thresh
a couple of wagon loads
of hay, including his faof hay, including his fa-vorite threshing machine, Johnny Cash, named for a song telling the story of a fellow who put together a car using a wide range of car using a wide range of parts from a wide range of cars. Every piece of the Johnny Cash Special that's painted came from another machine or combine.

For the demonstration, several senior residents of the Langenburg Care Home came out to watch all the excitement and action bringing back fond

tion bringing back fond memories for many of them of harvests past. In 2010, Ken had 10 machines go-ing at the same time. He's sold different ones he's put together and they garner international attention.



Above and below: The Johnny Cash Special in action on Sep-







Above left: Walter Haberstock attended a previous time Ken fired up the Johnny Cash Special. Walter has helped with the threshing in previous years and was able to enjoy the spectacle from the sideline this time. He and Alice (at his right) lived nearby in years past and highly enjoyed the opportunity to see the old-time threshing demonstration put on. **Above right:** A photo of Walter helping with the threshing.





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Above: Cameron Duncan pitching a sheave into the threshing machine. Duncan says it was the first time in 50 years he'd threshed. He remembers getting up early in the morning with crews of men to get threshing back in his twenties after sleeping in the after sleeping in the

Left: People checking out a Model H Eagle two cylinder gas tractor from around 1915.



Above: Jacob Ruhland smiles after getting a ride in an antique vehicle. Below: Brenda and Dean Redman running the steamer attached to the threshing machine.





Above: An aerial view of the threshing demonstration with people watching from the hay ride wagon and on the grass in front of the museum



Above: Museum employee Olivia Kelly along with volunteers pitching sheaves into the threshing demonstration. One of the volunteers is from South Africa and had never seen a threshing machine before.

Below: People watching the threshing demonstration from the hay wagon.



Rocanville Threshing and Museum Day

Rocanville and District Museum's Threshing and Museum Day was held on Saturday, September 18. The day started with a pancake breakfast and also included a market, lunch, musical entertainment, hay rides, antique vehicle rides and a threshing demonstration which drew a large crowd of intersted people. This annual event is the main fundraiser for the Rocanville and District Museum.



Above: Brenda and Dean Redman running the steam engine for the threshing demonstration



Above: People disembarking from the hay ride.

Below: Kristy and Abby Nelson selling sweet treats at the market.







Above: One of the combines harvesting the Harvest of Hope crop.

Below: Conexus Credit Union staff volunteering to serve lunch in the field.

Right: Combines heading out to the field to harvest.



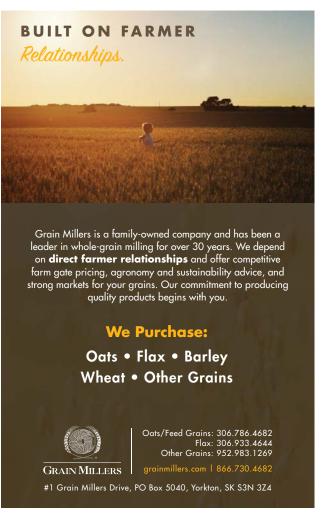


Harvest of Hope

Seven combines, above, helped take off the Harvest of Hope for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank on Friday. The Harvest of Hope field is located just north of Moosomin with volunteers taking off wheat this year. Proceeds from the Canadian Foodgrains Bank go toward alleviating world hunger.

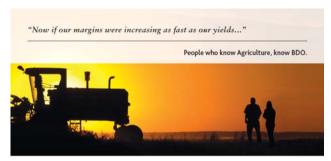








Andi, Josee and Eden Skulmoski heading into the wheat field by Mary-



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Finding feed solutions for drought conditions

"Continued from page 8
"Coming from a farm background, Megan brought that to the program, and she has done a fantastic job each year," said Lardner. "And she is also going to help me as also going to help me as a teaching assistant this fall too, and I saw that as a great stepping stone for her because I think her end

with an advanced degree and then get into extension work with stakeholders

work with stakeholders and producers and teaching. So it's a natural fit for her."

While her research couldn't be more timely, Wasden didn't imagine it would be so applicable so soon, with producers searching for solutions after suffering through a searching for solutions after suffering through a

2021.
"I didn't envision this at

all, but we can now really test these forages in these severe drought condi-tions," said Wasden, who has experienced the effects first-hand, while running her own small cattle herd back home in Spiritwood, Sask. "I have found a lot of people are very interested in this research, so that has been great. Hopefully we can provide some effective solutions for the future.'



Agriculture and Bioresources student Megan Wasden has a small herd of her own cattle back home in Spiritwood, Sask



USask master's student Megan Wasden documents research readings at USask's Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence near Clavet.

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Canadian Foodgrains Bank: Pandemic Pivot

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Canadian Foodgrains Bank programs around the world largely carried on, thanks to the hard work and commitment of their implementing partners.



Julia Kanyua of the National Council of Churches in Kenya provides train-

Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of 15 Canadian churches and church-based agencies working together to end global hun-ger. They work with locally-based organiza-tions in developing countries to meet emer-gency food needs, achieve long-term solutions to hunger and work to foster informed action by Canadians and governments to support this international cause.

In Lebanon

In Lebanon, local organization MER-ATH partnered with Foodgrains Bank member Canadian Baptist Ministries to adapt and simplify safe distribution guidance for providing food. They also provided a basic personal protective equipment (PPE) kit—including masks, hand sanitizer and surface spray—to facilitate

ing in poultry farming in Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya. The National Council of Churches Kenya is the local partner of our member The United Church of ATH's project coordinator prioritized

the delivery of food vouchers (provided through our member World Renew's project) to partner staff across project ar-eas. These food vouchers were provided

eas. These food vouchers were provided through another project, supported by our member World Renew.

Staff members and volunteers from ADRA Lebanon even did the grocery shopping on behalf of vulnerable participants through a response to the explosion in the Port of Beirut.

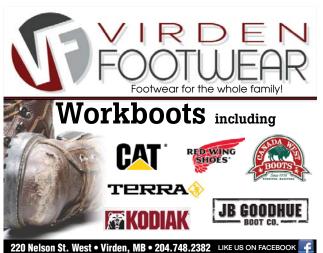
In Syria

In Syria, volunteers with Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue, the local partner of their member Mennonite Central Committee Canada, delivered food baskets to elderly households in-

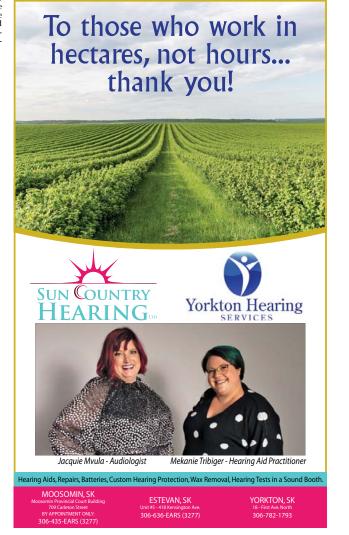
In India, instead of large group meetings, local Mennonite Central Committee Canada India partners Disha (an Indian partner organization whose Hindi name means finding the right path or direction) and SEBA (Social Education and Basic

Awareness) provided agricultural trainings and support to savings and loans groups in very small groups or even individually. They also relied on field-based staff to help reach remote villagers.

Continued on page B21 *







Farm equipment outlook strong amid production challenges

Dealer sales strongWe anticipate inventory levels will remain tight in 2022 as producer demand remains strong for farm equipment and supply chain disruptions limited manufacturers output.

New farm equipment inventory levels have trended below the five-year average (tractors are down 42% and combines down 47%) as dealers focused on right-sizing both new and used inventory lots. Strong demand for farm equipment for the remainder of 2021 is expected to reduce inventory levels further and continue to support higher prices.

The good news is equipment manufacturers are expected to

adjust their production upward due to the changing economic environment as North American equipment dealers begin to rebuild their inventories.

Key trends tomonitor in 2022

Supply chain disruptionsThe biggest wild card impacting our outlook for the farm

equipment market will be supply chain disruptions.
We do know the global supply chain disruptions have impacted the farm equipment market, but what remains unclear is how long they will last.

Canadian dollar

The Canadian dollar appreciated in the first half of 2021, easing price pressure on farm machinery. The loonie has recently softened relative to the USD, and we expect it will stay under \$USO.80 for the remainder of the year. In its current range, the CAD remains supportive of both farm revenue and farm equipment prices.

Interest rates

Interest rates remain historically low and attractive for producers looking for equipment financing. The Bank of Canada overnight rate is expected to increase in the second half of 2022 as the Canadian and U.S. economies recover.

It is also likely to see a small shift upward in long-term in-

Farm revenues

Farm revenues

The grain and oilseed harvests are currently underway in North America. There remains uncertainty with regards to revenues from the 2021-22 crop. In Canada, crop production is one of two stories: drought conditions in the west and above-average crop production in Eastern and Central Canada due to timely rains. Global production estimates in the coming months will be important to monitor for corn, soybeans, and wheat the capital integrated integrand, ultimately. wheat to gain insights into price direction and, ultimately,

Strong commodity prices have increased demand for farm equipment. The farm equipment market in 2022 will be one of continued tight inventory as manufactures and dealers rebalance inventory and adjust to the evolving agriculture eco-nomic environment. As equipment inventory remains tight, producers may have to examine their equipment replacement plans.



Last year, there were 306 farm power line contacts in the province.

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Canadian Foodgrains Bank: Pandemic Pivot

Continued from page 19

In Kenya

In Kenya, with the sup-port of Foodgrains Bank member The United Church of Canada, the National Council of Churches tional Council of Churches provided organizational support to farm families forming savings and loans groups. Through the groups, families were able to save money despite the uncertainty of the pandemic, and invest that money in sour and continuing bei new and continuing business initiatives.

In Canada

Canada Foodgrains Bank support-ers and staff also did their fair share of pandemic piv-

oting.
Foodgrains Bank supporters didn't let the pandemic stop them from making a difference for people facing hunger around the world. 224 growing projects across the country seeded crops for the Foodgrains Bank in 2020-21!

For example, in Knee-hill County, Alberta, the organizers behind a long-running community fun-draising supper weren't ready to just take a year off because of a global pan-demic. Instead, they organized a drive-thru dinner in a field. The pulled pork, potatoes, coleslaw and des-sert for a good cause ended up attracting people from across neighbouring com-

I had to walk down the line of cars and turn people away,' says project orga-



The lineup to get into the Kneehill North's annual fundraising dinner was so long some would-be guests had to be turned away. Overall, the dinner was a great success, say organizers.

nizer Earl Jeninga. "We thought 400 people would

show up because around 350 people had pre-ordered

their meals," he says of the 650 people who showed

up. Fundraising

For Foodgrains Bank staff, activities that would normally have taken place in-person moved online. For example, their Global Justice Advocates Training that would normally have happened in-person shifted happened in-person shifted to Zoom. Participants met with their members of par-liament virtually to share why they care about Can-

in Abbotsford, Sask Val-ley and Grunthal all also

moved online and grow-ing project leader meetings in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario

Manitoba and C were held via Zoom.

ada's global commitments.
Two virtual events were held for supporters, featuring program staff from Bangladesh, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Pakistan shar-ing about the food security situations in their respec-



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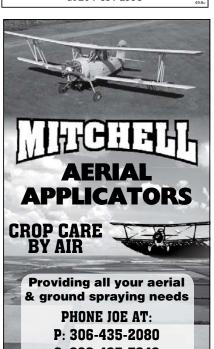
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APAS sends out producer survey about how the drought has impacted grain contracts

The Agricultural Producers Associa-on of Saskatchewan (APAS) created a producer survey to gain information and feedback about how the summer's drought has impacted farmers' and ranchers' experience with grain companies, particularly in dealing with severe production shortfalls.
"The extreme heat and lack of rainfall

throughout the summer led to yields well below long-term production averages for

many farmers and ranchers throughout Saskatchean," APAS President Todd Lewis said. "Many producers in the province won't be able to fulfill their grain contracts, and that could result in farmers having to pay thousands of dollars to buy out their contracts. That will cripple a lot of producers in an already challenging season."

In more normal years, production shortfalls are more localized, so if a producer was short on their grain contract, that pro-

ducer could purchase another farmer's grain to fulfill contract obligations. The 2021 drought is widespread across Western Canada and has resulted in historically high grain market prices. Producers short on their contracts face substantial costs to buy out the contract in a rising market.

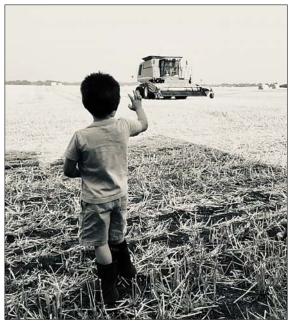
market.
"It's been a tough year for Saskatche-wan producers, and during these unprec-edented events that we really notice the flaws in the system," Lewis said. "APAS is committed to working on behalf of pro-ducers to improve the contract system. By working together, producers, grain companies and governments can meet at the table and find a solution that results in these contracts being fair to all parties involved."

In August, APAS and all other provin-

cial crop associations sent a joint letter to the Western Grain Elevator Association requesting grain companies eliminate their administration fees and penalties when producers deal with production shortfalls. The APAS Grain Contract Survey will

collect information to document the range and type of costs producers face due to contract shortfalls and disputes with grain buvers.

Improved grain contracts have been a long-standing policy issue for APAS members. APAS recently addressed contract concerns in a 2021 Canada Grain Act Review Submission and requested the Canadian Grain Commission and federal government work with producers and li-censed grain companies to improve contract transparency and reciprocity in the reciprocity in the trade.



Sarah Deschambault submitted this photo of Willen Priestley in Arrow River, Manitoba as part of the World-Spectator's Harvest Photo Contest.





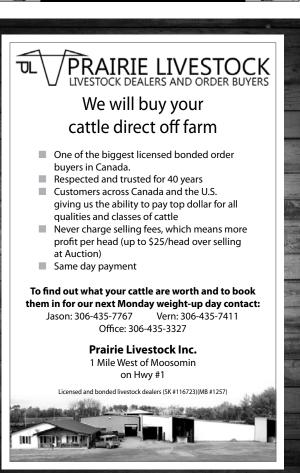
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B23

Done for another year!

Done for another year! When we pulled our RV home from the lake on August 3, we literally went directly to the field and started combining. When I awoke some six weeks later, it was all over.

Well if that was the case I would have missed treasured moments—you know—meal-making and hauling, running for this and that, helping to move machinery, combining. Oh wait! I did miss it all but only due to a 36-day stint with Elections Canada. Harvest was, this year, only in my peripheral vision with the odd meal run and not much else.

The biggest question I had in my mind back in early August was *if* there was an election call, how would I be able to work the required seven days a week, 12-hour days plus make my meal runs. And that's when my hubby gave me this very short little talls: "We'll manage." You mean, manage without me? And yup, everyone managed just fine without me. Plus I did manage to sneak a meal-run or two

one evening, after one of those tailgate meals amidst the flies and the dust, I decided to stay in the RV at the farm overnight. Our granddaughter, 12, popped over for a visit and some snacks. The cupboards were nearly bare except

and some snacks. The cupboards were nearly bare except for one thing.

"I can make popcorn," I told her.
"Do you have seasoning?" she asked.
"No," I countered, "but I have butter and salt. When I was a kid, we didn't have seasoning," I continued. "We just ate our popcorn with butter and salt."

Her response? "There was popcorn way back when you were little?"

The weather this arresponse was the response to the

The weather this year may not have been conducive to producing great crops and the resulting yields were largely disappointing but on the flip side, harvest got off to an early start and farmers were able to keep on rolling day after day after day. After about 20 in a row, I heard the unthinkable

after day. After about 20 in a row, I heard the unthinkable from my hubby: "I just wish it would rain. I need a break." Not so from the twins (10) who enjoyed the best August ever—day after day on the combine.

"Whatcha been doing these days?" I asked them one evening, knowing full well the answer. "Combining," they said in unison. "Whatch gonna do tomorrow?" I asked. "Goin' combining," they said. "Don't you ever get tired of that?" And the young men of few words only had one thing to say about that, "Nope." These young farmers went prepared with their lunch all packed and though they didn't exactly say so, I am pretty sure when the men gathered around the tailgate for supper, they were pretty happy to come down off their perch and enjoy a hot meal.

off their perch and enjoy a hot meal.

Once the election's end was in sight, I had one goal in mind and that was to go 'creeking.' To get out in the fresh air and travel through the creek amidst the beautiful fall colours was foremost on my mind and the minute I started the ATV up, I had two little side kicks ready to join in on the ride. The signs they had made earlier in the summer were readied for our little road trip to the creek so we could hang





them up. "Mole Hill Meadows," "Less steep this way," "Reid's Road," "Bear Poop Hill," and many more were finally

id's Road," "Bear Poop Hill," and many more were finally going to find their rightful spot along the trails in the creek. "Why do we even need signs," one of the boys asked. "We know all the trails out here," he said. And so they do. They knew exactly where and on which tree the signs would go. What I didn't tell them though was now Grams won't ever get lost out there in the wilderness.

We have watched the white-tails and the mule deer and lost the same for the same of the same and the same definited lost.

We have watched the white-tails and the mule deer and kept our eyes open for bear because they are definitely leaving their own signs behind. An evening of cooking steaks over the open fire out along the creek is always a highlight for us as the kids keep busy piling firewood, spotting the wildlife down in the creek below, and getting a close-up look at the craggy oak tree trunks and the beautiful coloured leaves. I am pretty sure it doesn't get any better than this.

Talk of homework and talk of catching up on the farm

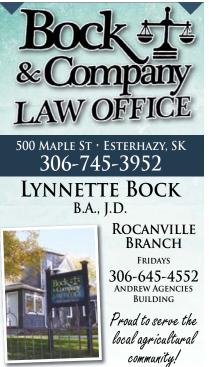


Left: Bear poop you ay? The wonder of exploring the "creek" along our land never fades, and though this picture was taken when the twins were small, their fascination with nature is as keen today as it was then. Here, they've just been shown some bear sign and that's been the inspiration for naming several spots in our creek, this one aptly named "Bear Poop Hill.

or the next day's work

books or the next day's work schedule can give each of us the sudden realization that real life lurks just around the corner. And so it was on a beautiful near-30-degree late-September day, we left our little refuge in the creek for the trek back out and headed home. As we close out this year's harvest season, we trust all our farmer friends out there have been able to bring the 2021 crop safely in and that some moments of relaxation with the activity of the property of the

2021 crop sarely in and trat some moments or relaxation might await you, whether in your back yard by the bonfire, around the kitchen table playing board games with your kids or whatever it is that makes the quieter moments fulfilling and rewarding. This wish extends of course to all our readers. As for election workers in this readership area—can I keep your number for next time? Lol. Until next







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Chauntelle Robbins submitted this photo of combining canola in southwest Manitoba near Sinclair, Manitoba. The photo was submitted as part of the World-Spectator's Harvest Photo Contest.



Chauntelle Robbins photo



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Above Left: Jedidah Njeri participated in agricultural trainings offered through our member World Renew and their local partner Anglican Development Services in Kenya. **Above Right:** Jedidah Njeri participated in trainings offered through our member World Renew and their local partner Anglican Development Services in Kenya. She's been so successful that she's been able to hire others to help with her farming, including this man, who delivers food for her cows.

Canadian Foodgrains Bank: Responding to long-term hunger

Last year, Canadian Foodgrains Bank approved funding to support 568,324 people facing long-term hunger and malnutrition in 21 countries.

Their devolutes

Their development work focuses on supporting families' efforts to lift themsupporting lainnes enrors to int intenseeves out of poverty. This work often includes offering sustainable agriculture trainings to families, many of whom rely on small plots of land for their income, to improve their crop yields.

"I struggled a lot before conservation agriculture. I would have to buy food and never had any surplus."

~Jedidah Njeri, Kenya

They also help people rebuild their live-lihoods after disasters, and work with communities to strengthen their ability to live through natural disasters and adapt to

Ending hunger is about more than the quantity of food someone eats. It's also about the nutritional value of food. Through the Foodgrains Bank's members Through the Foodgrains Bank's members and partners, they promote good nutritional practices, especially for pregnant and nursing mothers and young children. They do this by supporting nutrition, hygiene and sanitation, and maternal health education programs. Their programs encourage exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a baby's life first six months of a baby's life.

Scaling-up conservation agriculture in East Africa

agriculture in East Affica 2020-21 saw the conclusion of their five-year Scaling-Up Conservation Agriculture in East Africa program. The program was undertaken by their members Mennonite Central Committee Canada, World Renew and Tearfund Canada, and implemented locally by a network of partner agencies.
Through the program:

• 61,669 farmers were trained in sustain-

able conservation agriculture methods.

• 51,000 households improved their ac

cess to food, including quantity and qual-

ity of food.
• The Government of Canada supported this program with \$14 million in funding, while Foodgrains Bank supporters

donated an additional \$4.67 million.

For Jedidah Njeri in Kenya, receiving conservation agriculture training has had positive spinoff effects in ways she hadn't anticipated.

"I struggled a lot before conservation agriculture. I would have to buy food and agriculture. I would have to buy food and never had any surplus. Now I sell food to my neighbours. I'm using the land more productively," says Jedidah, who is 52 years old and participated in the trainings, provided by Foodgrains Bank member World Renew through their local partner

World Renew through their local partner Anglican Development Services.

Conservation agriculture is a set of farming techniques that emphasizes minimal soil disturbance, soil cover, and crop rotations and variety. It helps keep moisture locked into the soil, and over time, restores its health and fertility.

Ledidah and her husband farm on five

Jedidah and her husband farm on five acres. Using conventional farming meth-ods, they used to harvest five bags of

maize, and two bags of beans. Now, with conservation agriculture methods, Jedidah has increased that to six bags of maize and three bags of beans, and hasn't needed to

three bags of beans, and hasn't needed to farm all her land to meet her needs.

"I'm now getting more food with less work and on less land. It has given me the freedom to tend to other parts of my farm and be more productive," she says.

"Before conservation agriculture, I could not keep more than three cows," she explains. "I was balancing the farm with the cattle. I needed more time and could not afford to hire more people. Now that I spend less time in the field, I can tend to another cow. And since I'm making more another cow. And since I'm making more money, I can hire somebody to take care of the cattle. In addition, my cows have given birth to two calves that I can now keep or decide to sell."

Today, there are 54,376 people who are continuing to practice conservation agriculture on their farms despite the program

ending.
As for Jedidah? "I hope others can learn this method. My neighbours notice my field and I tell them what I do," she says.



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Southeast Sask:

Dry weather allows for 92 per cent of crop to come in

In Southeast Saskatchewan minimal rainfall and ewan minimal rainfall and warm day-time temperatures allowed for great harvest progress to be made. As of September 20, 92 per cent of the crop was in the bin, up from 81 per cent the previous week and remaining well ahead of the five-year (2016-2009) averfive-year (2016-2020) average for this time of year of 74 per cent. An additional four per cent of the crop is swathed or ready to straight-cut.

straight-cut.
There was very little rainfall in the region again last week. The Weyburn area received the highest amount with 3 mm. The Frobisher, Kisbey and Radville areas received 2 mm.
Another week of no significant precipitation has further depleted topsoil moisture conditions. Crop-

moisture conditions. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 34 per cent adequate, 53 per cent short and 13 per cent very short. Hay and pasture land topsoil mois-ture is rated as 24 per cent adequate, 27 per cent short and 49 per cent very short. Farmers are hoping for rain to help improve moisture

reserves for next spring.

The majority of crop damage last week was due to wind, frost and lack of moisture. There was also damage caused by wildlife and waterfowl. Most crops have avoided damage due to frost by already being harvested, but some of the later maturing crops such as corn and soybeans have seen some damage. Farmers are hoping that the frost will kill off the regrowth in their fields and save them from having to spray.
Pasture conditions are



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rated as 21 per cent good, 24 per cent fair, 37 per cent poor and 18 per cent very poor. Rainfall late in the season allowed for some pastures to green up and improve their ability to support cattle grazing; now they are beginning to dry down again and more rain will be needed before winter to help the grass recover.

Farmers are busy combining, harrowing, spray-ing, hauling bales and grain and moving cattle.



by Kevin Weedmark





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Nutrien and other founding partners endorse global institute for food security's strategic diection for second phase of growth

Following a successful phase of operations and a new corporate strategy, Nutrien, the Government of Saskatchewan and the University of Saskatchewan (USask) have endorsed the renewed direction of the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS), reconfirming their Memorandum of Agreement and additional funding to support the institute's next phase of growth.

Founded in 2012 in a public-private partnership agreement between the Government of Saskatchewan, Nutrien and USask, GIFS was created to build on Saskatchewan's existing strengths in agriculture and innovation to deliver technological, economic, nutritional and environmental improvements to the global food production system.

"At GIFS, we have a bold vision of a world where everyone has access to safe and nutritious food, and Saskatchewan's thriving agri-food ecosystem has the building blocks to help make this vision a reality," said GIFS' Chief Executive Officer Steven Webb (PhD). "We are grateful to Nutrien, the Government of Saskatchewan and USask for their confidence in GIFS,

their renewal of our Memorandum of Agreement and their continued support and financial commitment to our vision, which we are bringing to life through our

various initiatives focused on making food production

As the world's largest provider of crop inputs and services, Nutrien is playing a critical role in helping grow-ers increase food production in a sustainable manner. The organization's investment in GIFS will support the public-private partnership's focus on connecting the agri-food value chain to work together to advance the development of valuable agricultural technologies and deliver food production in a way that is economically,

deliver food production in a way that is economically, environmentally and socially sustainable.

"Achieving global food security is central to Nutrien's Purpose to grow our world from the ground up, and the Global Institute for Food Security is doing incredibly important work in this area," said Nutrien President and CEO Mayo Schmidt. "Saskatchewan is one of the world's strongest agri-science ecosystems, and we're proud to partner with GIFS, the province and the University of Saskatchewan, to help bring innovations to market that will help farmers succeed in sustainably feeding a growing planet to realize Nutrien's Feeding the Future plan commitments."

Current initiatives underway at GIFS as part of its

new phase of operations include its research and de-

velopment to boost photosynthesis in crops, the process by which plants use sunlight to convert water and carbon dioxide into energy and food.

"Agriculture is part of the solution for mitigating the effects of climate change and managing greenhouse gas emissions. Through photosynthesis, plants are able to absorb and sequester carbon to create food and energy making the process one of nature's safest and most

to absorb and sequester carbon to create food and energy, making the process one of nature's safest and most sustainable solutions to reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere," said Webb.

"GIFS' research programs to improve the photosynthetic ability of plants will help lead to improved quality crop yield and reduced carbon emissions—a win for economics and the environment."

To accommodate its plant for its pear place of opera-

To accommodate its plans for its next phase of operations, GIFS has relocated to an expansive facility at 421 Downey Road, Innovation Place, Saskatoon. The new location contains twice its laboratory space and three times its plant growth facilities, including greenhouses and plant growth chambers.

"In line with our corporate strategy, we have totally transformed the way we work and have established new technology platforms to support our science programs and the research goals of our partners," Webb.

"Our new location enables this strategy, providing the room we need to consolidate our offices and research facilities into one centre. This is giving life to our mission to work with partners to discover, develop and deliver innovative solutions for the production of globally sustainable food—for Saskatchewan, Canada and the world."









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