



AgRISE (Agri-food Research, Innovation, Skills & Education) Workshop

Sternwheeler Hotel, Conference Room #1
Whitehorse, Yukon
July 17, 2024 – 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Title: Identifying the highly skilled (HQP) needs for the agri-food sector

This workshop will address recruitment to the sector*, skill sets, current capacity to provide leading edge graduates, interdisciplinary skills and cross training the highly skilled from other disciplines. The objective is meeting future needs for an innovative and sustainable agri-food sector. (* industry, governments, and research)

This collaborative effort is aimed at addressing the evolving needs of the Agri-Food sector for highly skilled (HQP – highly qualified personnel). With a focus on innovation for industry, this initiative seeks to chart the future of skills development, transcending traditional boundaries by integrating engineering, IT, software, animal and human health, science, and research.

AgRISE Workshop		
5 minutes	Setting the stage - "Meeting the needs for the next decade"	
	 Martin Scanlon, President-elect, Deans Council AFVM Dean, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Manitoba Jennifer Wright, Executive Director, Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC) 	
45 minutes	Panel: Workforce recruitment/ careers and employment overview – "Planning for the next decade - supporting the agri-food sector"	
5-minute introduction	Moderator: Rene Van Acker, Past President, Deans Council AFVM; Vice-President of Research (Interim), University of Guelph Panellists:	
presentations	 Kathryn Doan, Ag Careers – skills of graduates, where are they getting employed/ demand, and what are the gaps? Jennifer Wright, CAHRC – how highly skilled fits within national workforce study / update new CAHRC study mapping out job needs Martin Scanlon – Deans Council AFVM - Delivering HQP for the ag and food sector - challenges and opportunities (can speak to challenges of recruitment, and opportunities in program expansion including course-based masters for 	





	graduates, international students, and upskilling with micro- credentials
	Gillian Muir, WCVM – Making the most of foreign trained HQP the case for the Veterinary Medicine National Testing Centre
40 minutes	Roundtable session (20 minutes) Session to cover skill sets needs, baseline, validation Skills needs by geography, regionally and provincially; Include under-represented groups, indigenous, women in agriculture, EDI
	 Topic: "Meeting the needs for the next decade" What are the challenges of attracting highly skilled – HQP, including prospective students & international graduates, to the sector? What are the needs in inter-disciplinary programming for the next decade? Where are the gaps? What is currently happening in Canada? What can we learn from approaches outside of Canada? Are there examples that are working to attract HQP?
	Table Reporting – (20 or 25 minutes) Tables: Leads and themes: 1. Farm Credit Canada: Inside farmgate – (TBD) 2. Kevin Elder: Value chain, supply chain and logistics 3. Pierre Petelle: Research – including university and industry 4. Senator Robinson – collaboration on capacity for skills development, AI and digital policy (Dan Lussier, EMILI)
15 minutes	Discussion and Next steps • Martin Scanlon
5 minutes	Wrap-up Roger Larson, Executive Director, Deans Council AFVM