TEAMALBERTA

ADVANCING ALBERTA'S CROP SECTOR TO 2025 AND BEYOND

Team Alberta Notice of Farmer Led Research Consultations

Team Alberta urges all farmers and ranchers in Alberta to take part in this government process to decide the future of agricultural research in Alberta. We highly recommend that all farmers provide the government with views about how research will help their operations grow in the future.

Provide your input on the future of agricultural research in Alberta by January 31, 2020.

Get to one of these meetings and provide your views online here:

Farmer-led research engagement

Public engagement sessions will also be held throughout January. Register for a session below:

Lethbridge, January 13, 10 to 2 pm

Grande Prairie, January 17, 2 to 4 pm

Vermilion, January 21, 9 to 11 am

Camrose, January 21, 2:30 to 4:30 pm

Olds, January 23, 2 to 4 pm

Calgary, January 24, 10 am to 12 pm

Attend the meeting near you to have your say!

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Alberta Barley | ALBERTA CANOLA | ALBERTA PULSE GROWERS | Alberta Wheat COMMISSION

Team Alberta represents a working collaboration between four of Alberta's crop commissions: Alberta Barley, Alberta Canola, Alberta Pulse Growers and the Alberta Wheat Commission. We work together with the aim to provide input to policy makers, ensure long-term access to markets, promote the sustainability of the crop sector, and advocate on behalf of farmers while enabling grass-roots advocacy by our farmer members.

Backgrounder

Research is a critical aspect of ensuring Canadian farmers remain competitive. Farmers have historically played a major role in this through research investment. Currently between the four major crop commissions, there is approximately $14.7 million in farmer funding directed toward on-going and new research projects in collaboration with the Alberta Government.

Investment in research is a top priority and mandate of the commissions and we commend the government's intention to develop a farmer-led research model. We believe "farmer-led" should mean a strong collaboration between all key stakeholders- farmers, scientists and government- in determining priorities.

Stable government funding at appropriate levels is critical to advance research, development, and extension activities in Alberta. Industry's ability to fund research projects and programs is limited by budgetary constraints, and requires partnership with other organizations, particularly government, in order to adequately ensure measurable progress towards improved competitiveness, profitability, and sustainability within all agricultural sectors. Key capacity, including researchers and extension staff who have always been housed within the provincial government, is another critical component to success.

At the request of Minister Dreeshen, Alberta's crop and livestock commissions led the development of a white paper to inform the ministry on producer desires in terms of policy, funding and capacity. In developing the white paper, feedback and input were solicited from all crop and livestock commodity groups. Farmers who are interested in learning more about what the commissions have proposed in the white paper can read a summary here.

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