

ARECA



**AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND
EXTENSION COUNCIL OF ALBERTA**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2016**

A Note from ARECA Board Chair, Ian Murray



Greetings,

To borrow the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Junior, I too, have a dream.

ARECA is owned by our nine member associations.

I feel that there is real value in ARECA, and in the associations being members. ARECA continues to advocate for all our associations every chance we get. When the Executive Director or a Board Member talks about what “we” can do for someone, we are thinking about the whole team. When ARECA says that “we” have people across the whole province, that “we” have plots, that “we” have networks, ARECA is referring to our members. We are a partnership of member associations engaging in projects, if they are in the interest of their members, to accomplish our work. I truly believe that ARECA has a duty to its members, its owners, to provide value, to advocate on their behalf, and to assist the associations with training or networking.

I also strongly believe that each member of ARECA is an owner in something bigger, that no one association could accomplish on their own. ARECA takes the lead and provides a single point of contact on provincial projects such as the Sainfoin Project, or can be the voice for Alberta on national issues, such as the development of the National EFP program. Our office takes these projects on, makes them happen in co-operation with our member associations, and “gets stuff done” for the betterment of all Alberta producers. My vision is that members empower ARECA to be the strong provincial voice for agriculture, to be able to provide unbiased results, the coordinated approach and the network of resources.

ARECA has the potential to do great things for agriculture in Alberta. Strong support from the member organizations for ARECA makes that happen.

Ian Murray,
Chair, ARECA.



A Message from the Minister of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

The Agriculture Research & Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA) is a key partner in supporting the long-term success of our province's agriculture sector. Research and innovation are at the heart of our agriculture community's ability to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of producers and consumers in today's highly competitive global marketplace.

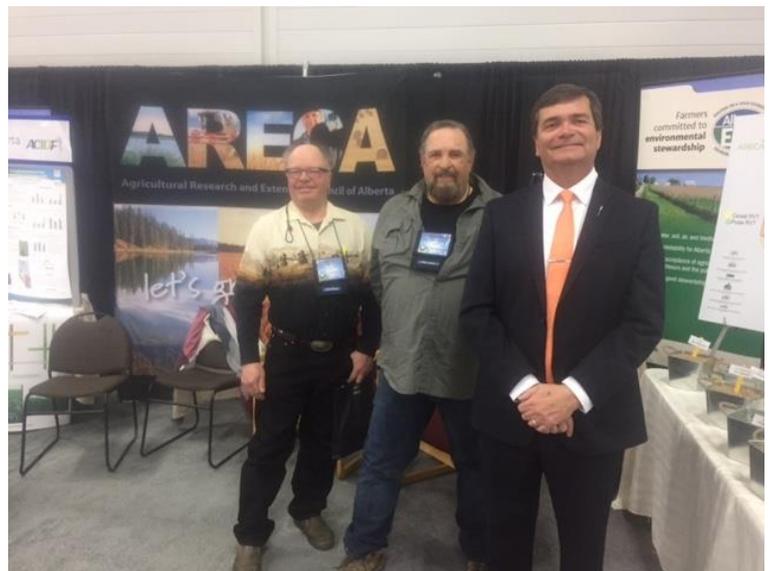
As a leader in the development of applied research and agriculture advancements, ARECA is an important resource for producers to help them enhance their operations, adopt new technology and management practices, and explore new crop choices.

Our government shares ARECA's commitment to strong and sustainable agriculture sector, which is part of the foundation of a thriving and diversified provincial economy. And, we know that ongoing advancements in environmental stewardship, responsible industry development, and farming efficiency will continue to cement Alberta's reputation as a preferred supplier of high quality agriculture products around the world.

Thank you to the members of ARECA for your dedication to excellence and for being a strong voice for Alberta producers. The work you are doing every day helps ensure our agriculture sector is well positioned to face challenges and make the most of opportunities for growth.

I look forward to our continued partnership and your continued success.

Oneil Carlier
Minister, Agriculture and Forestry



Visit with the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry at FarmTech 2017. (R-L): Minister Oneil Carlier, Agriculture and Forestry, Walter Suntjens (CARA), and Howard Vincent (BRRG).



Together, ARECA members deliver applied research and extension to farmers across Alberta. What information is needed by farmers? What partners can we work with? What programs will serve farmers and attract investment?

On November 8 & 9th, 2016 ARECA hosted 35 member association Board members at a conference in Lacombe. It was an excellent session and will lead to greater collaboration between our associations, government and industry in 2017.

Message from Executive Director, Janette McDonald



2016 was a good year for ARECA. We worked with our 9 members associations to deliver programs across the province.

Pest Monitoring: 6 of our associations worked with AAF to monitor insect infestations across the province. We monitored 8 insect pests in 260 field visits over the summer and submitted the data for inclusion in the Alberta Insect Pest Monitoring Network releases.

Connections Newsletter: We created and distributed 9 newsletters with the intent of increasing the connection between our member association Boards. Each edition featured one member association. The newsletter is distributed internally to all association Board members.

Environmental Farm Plan: We introduced the Web 3.0 edition of the EFP. As well, ARECA was instrumental in leading a movement to a national EFP. We hope to move this plan further in 2017.

Sustainable Sourcing: ARECA was awarded Green Intern funding in 2016. Tyler Kueber has completed a summary of global sustainability requirements and how those requirements will impact Alberta farmers.

Project Management Training: All ARECA associations and their staff manage projects. Late in 2016, ARECA arranged training of 10 staff from 7 associations. This was an excellent course. If we work at what we learned, our projects will get better and better. One staff member said, "This was one of the best training workshops I have ever been to."

I am proud to work with organizations and people that put farmers first. See more stories throughout this report of the work we do.

Higher Legume Pasture Project - Ian Murray

In January of 2016, Grant Lastikwa came to us with the idea of a trial to utilize Sainfoin in a legume mix to reduce the risk of bloat in cattle while providing the soil health benefits associated with a higher legume composition. The future use of Sainfoin in Alberta, will be determined by how the new variety performs in a real world setting under our climate and grazing conditions. It was determined ARECA would be a good fit to take a lead in the project and work with all the local Applied Research and Forage associations.



The project has been named the *Higher Legume Pasture Project*. It is a multi-dimensional project focusing on the actual trial of Sainfoin and the extension of information related to the use of the new variety. The extension component advocates the increasing

value of legumes as a tool for pasture management. ARECA was contracted to deliver the agronomy portion of the project. ARECA subcontracted all 9 of our member associations to focus on the plot work. A standard protocol was utilized for all sites: 10AC site; seeded to a 60 % legume 40 % grass stand. The legume composition was 65 % Alfalfa and 35 % Sainfoin. All of the sites were seeded in the spring of 2016.

Sites have been further assessed each fall to include plant counts and stand re-establishment if needed. Proceeding forward, the sites will be fenced and grazed in 2017. Special focus will be on the incidence of bloat, Sainfoin regrowth, legume composition, and any unexpected observations.

We would like to thank all our subcontractor associations, along with our producer co-operators. Our co-operators are being compensated for out of pocket costs associated with the plots, however there is still a sizeable contribution of their time and resources that has not been accounted for. The Applied Research and Forage associations are all contributing their time as in-kind. There was not enough funding available to compensate them for the work they needed to do, but they all saw enough value in the project and stepped up to the plate to make it happen regardless. This project would not have left the ground without their efforts.



Province-wide Project

- FFGA: Longview
- FFGA: Gleichen
- MARA: Fort Vermilion
- MARA: Buffalo Head Prairie
- GRO: Fort Assiniboine
- WCFA: Barrhead
- GWFA: Lacombe
- LARA: Iron River
- CARA: Consort
- PCBFA: Fourth Creek
- BRRG: Holden
- NPARA: Manning
- FS: Granum

The Alberta EFP Program Business Plan (2015-16 to 2017-18) had two linked goals. One, to prepare Alberta EFP infrastructure and processes for an anticipated increase (15x) in producer adoption. This increase was predicated on Alberta EFP being a significant component of sustainable sourcing programs. Secondly, to make Alberta EFP the environmental backbone of sustainable sourcing programs.



Accomplishments have been many over the past year, and a few are highlighted below:

- **Development of a Species-At-Risk (SAR) module.** International sustainable sourcing standards have requirements around habitat/biodiversity protection, and specifically SAR protection. An online tool has been developed and can be demonstrated.
- **Development of a National EFP (NEFP).** In 2016, Alberta EFP led the development of the National Environmental Farm Plan Harmonization Initiative. This culminated in the National EFP Summit in November, which has subsequently led to the formation of a Steering Committee, and several sub-committees essential to the success of the NEFP.
- **IT Development and infrastructure.** Alberta EFP invested significantly in upgrading capacity with the WebBook and launched version 3.0 in February 2016. The redevelopment has put Alberta EFP in a favorable position financially and technically. Financially we expect minor costs in future for WebBook functionality and design changes. Technically, our new platform makes further modifications that improve ease-of-use for technicians and producers relatively easy.

Alberta EFP technicians expressed their appreciation for the work in developing tools, resources and guidelines to assist them in doing EFPs. These included:

- **Development of EFP delivery standards.** Guidelines were developed and finalized for mentors/new technicians. Guidelines were developed to help technicians stay current with the ongoing changes in the EFP processes and WebBook.



Paul Watson, Alberta EFP Director and Chair of the National Environmental Farm Plan Steering Committee makes his address at the Summit in Ottawa in November.

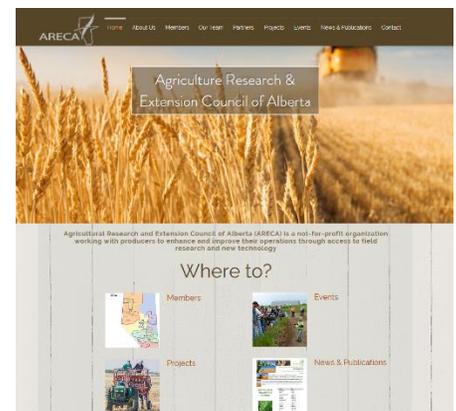
- **Communications and technician training.** 11 workshops were held and ~ 70% of technicians attended at least one session; over 25% attended both. Webinars and regular communication occurred throughout the year to inform and engage technicians.

- **Developing Resources** for producers and technicians to assist EFP delivery. Fact sheets, instruction sheets, forms, and other resources were created and updated and built within the Webbook for easy access.

- **Strategic planning and engaging technicians.** The Operations Committee and other technicians were consulted to provide feedback into the WebBook and EFP processes. They provided significant contributions to the operational planning process and input into the WebBook.

Visit us online
www.areca.ab.ca

In 2016 the ARECA web page received a much needed face-lift. This new format and template enhances our ability to connect with farmers, government, and our member associations. Special thanks to Foothills Forage and Grazing Association for assisting with the development.



PCBFA Update

The Peace Country Beef and Forage Association is made up of 10 board members, 4 full time staff and over 185 farm members, and operates in 10 municipalities across the Peace region of Northern Alberta. This past year has been a very busy one for us! In 2016, we launched a brand new farm-scale three-year Pasture Rejuvenation project funded by Alberta Beef Producers. The purpose of the study is to investigate the effects of different methods of rejuvenating old forage stands and brush control in comparison with complete renovation. Our site for the project is at the Wanham Provincial Grazing Reserve, and there is also a site in Oyen in collaboration with CARA.

We also ran a number of corn variety and corn fertility trials again this summer, and in November we released our publication “Corn: Field Guide for Silage and Grazing in the Peace”. In the fall, we wrapped up a three-year project that measured and compared the distribution of nutrients in the soil between different cropping and grazing systems. Other projects we worked on this year included subsoiling for improved forage production, cocktail cover crop mixtures for forage yield, stem-mining weevils, whole-farm water planning, and the soil carbon challenge. By the end of the year, we had worked on a total of 35 projects, and hosted over 30 extension events in the Peace Country!



Staff left to right: Lekshmi Sreekumar, Jen Allen, Liisa Vihvelin and Akim Omokanye



Highlights From GWFA

GWFA hosted their 1st Annual “Feed in A Flash” event August 17th in conjunction with Central Alberta Hay Centre (CAHC). We were blessed with a sunny day and an attendance of 120 producers / guests. CAHC brought their haying and silage equipment featuring their Kuhn disc mowers, rotary rakes, hay tedders & round balers. A McHale round baler, round bale wrapper, and an Anderson wrapper were on site as static displays. An additional feature was a Vermeer round baler and Anderson round bale mover. Several passes in the field with the equipment demonstrated the features and benefits that would afford producers a lower risk haying experience.



Chinook Applied Research Association Highlights:



- Weather again had a big impact on our program, with above average rainfall right through the fall making for great yields but a challenging harvest
- CARA received a huge donation of equipment from RA West International for our Soil Health Lab initiative
- Many thanks to HyTech for lending us a combine after a paralyzing breakdown to our Wintersteiger
- Several successful extension efforts during the year drawing up to 100 producers per event
- Three events focused on youth in our community: promotion of International Year of Pulses through 7 Classroom Agriculture Program presentations, a Calving Safety Clinic for 85 4-Her's and a Progressive Farm Safety Camp for 225 students
- Dr. Yamily Zavala delivered soil health and cocktail cover crop information at seminars throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan to over 1000 farmers
- CARA hosted an August training session and field tour for fellow applied research and forage associations
- Met 20 international producers during the pre-conference tour for the International Range Congress, as they visited one of our project sites with ranchers Marj Veno and Murray McArthur in July
- CARA staff continued to assist producers with their EFP's and Growing Forward 2 Program proposals
- Many project partnerships



2016 was another year for the records here at BRRG, with a number of excellent learning opportunities, challenges and achievements. Here are a few of the highlighted achievements from the 2016:

- We were happy to help host Jay Fuhrer, a District Conservationalist with the NRCS, at RedTail Farms south of Castor where he spoke on soil health.
- We partnered with LARA to bring Nicole Masters to Vermillion for her soil health school. While in Vermillion we were able to arrange an afternoon where Lakeland College students could take in a presentation by Nicole free of charge.
- We were able partner with Sheri Strydorst from AF to do a combined Bus tour of both of our plots.
- We saw a 14% increase in the number of people attending our extension events.
- We successfully planted our Eco Buffer Shelterbelt demo and are looking forward to the learning opportunities it provides. The Eco Buffer Shelterbelt is adjacent to a new walking path the town of Sedgewick has installed. This adds a whole new audience and educational opportunities.
- Our Facebook 'Like and Shares Campaign' has become quite popular. We did our own version where we put together a Thanksgiving Basket of everything needed for a thanksgiving meal, all locally sourced from Central Alberta Producers and Businesses!





A Year of Action

2016 was a year of action for Gateway Research Organization (GRO). We had achieved 100% rate of success harvesting of all our research trials; cereal crops, and forages. In addition, we focused on increasing our reach to the neighboring counties by conducting producer-collaborated field trials.

We had excellent looking RVT plots and a well-received crop walk. Among the highlights, GRO organized a bus full of producers to visit CanolaPalooza 2016. New for 2016, GRO conducted pasture walks and events to promote high legume pastures.

The GRO board of directors were very proactive the entire year. With their guidance and hard work from staff, GRO was successfully able to contribute to our vision of unbiased localised research serving the producers of our region.



GRO Directors and staff, l-r: Maurice Kruk (Vice-Chairman), Sandeep Nain (General Manager), Tom MacMillan, Rusty Bellamy (Director), Chelsea Geiger (Chairperson), Ken Anderson (Director), Bryan Penno (Served 2 terms and retired), Keith Wiart (Director), Justin Nanninga (Director), Rick Tarasiuk (Crops Research Technician), Bill Visscher (Director). Missing from the photo, Steve Kenyon (Treasurer), and Janine Paly (Secretary).



Lakeland Agricultural Research Celebrating 25 Years!

“Lakeland Agricultural Research Association conducts innovative, unbiased, applied research and extension, supporting sustainable agriculture”

It was a big year for LARA as we celebrated our 25th Anniversary of operations in the Lakeland region of Alberta. Over the past two and a half decades, lots has changed at LARA, but lots has stayed the same. We still remain a producer-directed association providing unbiased applied agricultural research and extension to our local farmers and ranchers.

To help celebrate, we hosted a tour and barbeque at our Research Farm located in Fort Kent Alberta that brought out over sixty local farmers and ranchers. We were excited to have producers out who were initially involved in LARA’s incorporation in 1991 and have seen us expand and grow over the years as well as young producers just getting involved in our association.

Every year, LARA hosts over twenty extension events and establishes over fifty small plot research trials in the MD of Bonnyville, County of St. Paul, Lac La Biche County and Smoky Lake County.



Mackenzie Applied Research Association



The Mackenzie Applied Research Association in Fort Vermilion, serves producers in the Mackenzie County, Canada's northernmost commercial agriculture region. In 2016, MARA expanded its programs to actively include producers in High Level, Alberta, thanks to the Enhanced Agriculture grant from the provincial government. A county-wide organic oats trial was also conducted, in addition to other projects such as the RVTs, corn variety & irrigation trial, canola & wheat nutrition trial. A lot of "new things" occurred at MARA in 2016: Irrigation trial, purchase of new plot combine harvester, 10-year research to track changes in soil fertility following forest land breaking, and participation in the silage RVTs. The industrial hemp trial at

MARA is also ongoing and that was expanded to 12 locations in the County.

The numerous extension events we held included seminars and workshops on organic & conventional crop production, weed management, livestock health and nutrition, canola pests and disease management, irrigation management, farm water management and field days.



We learn everyday as we move forward and 2016 was the most successful year for MARA in terms of number of projects, number of events and number of attendees at events. To government, industry and everyone, MARA is fully open for business in the Organic and Conventional sector, and your organization is always welcome to partner with us. For more information and to partner with MARA, you can visit us at www.mackenzieresearch.ca. You can also reach MARA at 780 927 3776.



Foothills Forage and Grazing Association: Highlights

FFGA has been a leader in delivering pertinent forage and livestock information to producers for 45 years. We bring producers together by offering profitable and regenerative tools to produce forages and livestock.



In 2016, we offered 19 events and had attendance of over 1,058 producers! Our monthly *GrassRoots News & Views* newsletter has continued distribution of over 400 copies/month. Our website also received a makeover with over 2,700 page views/month and our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube channels increased significantly in participation and awareness.



FFGA Board of Directors & Staff

We brought in many great speakers in 2016 and covered a large variety of topics including high quality forages, winter feeding, verified sustainable beef, water wells, salinity causes and cures, pasture management, grazing strategies, watering systems, high legume pastures, soil health, economics, and more! Some of our ongoing on-farm projects include Weevils on Canada Thistle, Perennial Forage Varieties, and two Sainfoin/High Legume sites.

In January, we welcomed Rachel McLean, our Environmental & Communications Coordinator, to our team. Rachel's addition has allowed us to ramp up our programs. The delivery of Environmental Farm Plans and Growing Forward 2 was a large addition to our program, Rachel assisted 39 operations with EFPs in 2016. We also had a huge increase in our social media reach and impact. We achieved both higher attendance at FFGA events as well as a younger demographic attending. We look forward to

continuing this momentum into the future!

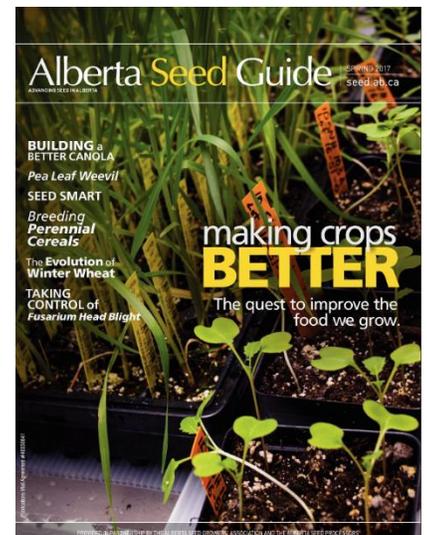
2016: A Productive Year

- Well over 200 visitors toured the research farm in groups and individually in 2016.
- Over 600 people attended NPARA extension events plus numerous visitors to our offices.
- 40+ species of locally appropriate cover crop species were displayed in our crops garden.
- A significant portion of the farm was again seeded to polyspecies mixes.
 - Soil health improvement was measured against 2014 and 2013 benchmarks.
 - Soil samples were submitted to laboratories in Canada and the U.S. for annual analysis.
- Cereal variety trials were excellent, providing data to producers on 72 wheat, barley and oat materials.
 - This NPARA program receives no funding from commissions or the RVT stream.
- Pulses suffered from early moisture stress, fababeen yields were average to good.
- Over 200 soybean varieties were evaluated in our continuing variety selection program.
 - This work has led to a working relationship with SEVITA of Inkerman Ontario, a leading developer and supplier of high quality and specialty soybean materials.
- New forage demonstration plots were established including legumes, grasses and mixes.
- A large replicated provincial forage trial was seeded.
- Sainfoin/Alfalfa replicated plots continue to provide data and a grazing demo was established.
- A great relationship with the Olds College Student Exchange Program allowed us to host two interns from Latin America (Mexico and Paraguay). Two local university students also joined our summer staff.
- A cooperative Peace Country (MARA, PCBFA, NPARA) corn grazing variety trial was carried out. Specialty crop trials include chickpea, quinoa and coriander.



Raising the Bar on RVT's

The 2016 growing season was another successful year for the cereal and pulse crop regional trials. We set our goal on 100% approval of our sites and we came close. We tested 60 varieties of wheat, 14 barley, 8 oats, 2 triticale, 11 flax, 9 field pea, 11 chickpeas and 15 lentils, for a total of 130 varieties tested. A total of 11 research organizations including six ARECA groups established trials across the province. Twenty-eight organizations sponsored the RVT program by entering varieties or making donations. Our trials were featured in 18 farm tours over the summer and printed in the Alberta Seed Guide that is circulated to every farmer in Alberta.



DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

Monitoring the severity and distribution of crop diseases helps producers manage risk. In 2016, ARECA member associations sampled 183 canola fields across Alberta for blackleg and sclerotinia. Another 300 fields were sampled by municipalities. Composite results are shown below. We hope to expand this work in 2017 and beyond.

Municipality	Fields affected/ Fields sampled	
	Blackleg	Sclerotina

North East

Athabasca	3/3	3/3
Bonnyville	3/3	3/3
Lac La Biche	1/1	1/1
Smoky Lake	17/20	2/2
St. Paul	2/2	2/2

Peace

Big Lakes	10/10	7/10
Birch Hills	3/9	4/9
Clear Hills	4/4	4/4
Fairview	15/15	7/10
Grande Prairie	9/9	9/9
Greenview	4/4	4/4
Peace	2/2	2/2
Saddle Hills	4/7	0/7
Smoky River	15/15	13/15
Spirit River	0/10	n.d.
Woodlands	1/1	0/1

North

Mackenzie	20/20	6/9
Northern Lights	9/9	9/9

Municipality	Fields affected/ Fields sampled	
	Blackleg	Sclerotina

North Central

Barrhead	2/3	3/3
Beaver	6/7	4/4
Camrose	14/14	4/4
Flagstaff	5/7	7/7
Lac Ste Anne	3/3	2/2
Lacombe	6/7	7/7
Lamont	5/5	4/4
Leduc	8/8	8/8
Minburn	13/13	6/6
Paintearth	5/6	6/6
Parkland	2/2	2/2
Ponoka	5/5	5/5
Provost	2/2	2/2
Red Deer	16/16	8/8
Stettler	12/12	6/6
Sturgeon	18/18	8/8
Thorhild	0/2	2/2
Two Hills	11/11	4/4
Vermillion River	12/15	15/15
Wainwright	6/10	10/10
Westlock	10/12	4/4
Wetaskiwin	6/6	5/5

Municipality	Fields affected/ Fields sampled	
	Blackleg	Sclerotina

South Central

Acadia	2/2	2/2
Cardston	6/8	0/5
Foothills	8/8	5/5
Kneehill	7/7	6/6
Lethbridge	5/9	0/6
Mountain View	4/6	6/6
Newell	10/10	0/4
Pincher Creek	5/5	2/2
Rocky View	12/12	7/7
SA 2	2/2	2/2
Starland	7/7	7/7
Taber	14/14	5/10
Vulcan	17/17	n.d.
Wheatland	19/19	4/8
Willow Creek	10/11	4/5

South

Cypress	3/3	0/3
Forty Mile	6/6	0/6
Warner	6/6	3/5



2016 was the final year of testing for the Controlled Traffic Farming (CTF) project, administered by ARECA. CTF is a farmer led initiative to evaluate and assess controlled traffic farming in Alberta and help farmers reduce the risk of adoption. Final report will be available in April, 2017. www.controlledtrafficfarming.org.

Agriculture Opportunity Fund

Promoting the long term sustainability of Alberta's agriculture industry and our rural communities.

2015-16 Year in Review

The Agriculture Opportunity Fund (AOF) provided \$1.95 million in funding to 13 partner organizations to deliver agriculture extension and research programs. These partners have reported the estimated economic impact of this investment at \$250 million. Some of the impacts and partner activities as reported are summarized below.

KNOWLEDGE EXTENSION AND INFORMATION SHARING

- **10,052** producers attended **224** extension events
- **1016** producers attended **seven** conferences
- **941** one-on-one consultations
- **64** newsletter issues published
- Agriculture production information extended to over **50, 910** producers farming over **42,042,122** acres
- One peer-reviewed scientific paper published and **four** more submitted
- **120,079** web hits on partner websites
- **36** AOF partner board members participated in board governance training
- **1077** producers attended **35** field schools
- **142** workshops delivered
- **50** media interviews

REGIONAL APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION

- **203** applied research projects
- **128** demonstrations of new technologies
- **Nine** partner organizations collected data in **183** sites for the Provincial Pest Monitoring Program
- **13** of 24 Regional Variety Testing sites in Alberta were delivered by AOF partners with final data provided for the 2015 Alberta Seed Guide

INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT, COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY PROGRAMS

- **119** Agriculture and Forestry staff and **332** other specialists collaborated with nine Applied Research Associations, four Forage Associations and the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta
- partnered with **54** rural counties and municipal districts to deliver agriculture production extension

Agriculture Opportunity Fund 2015-15 Year in Review

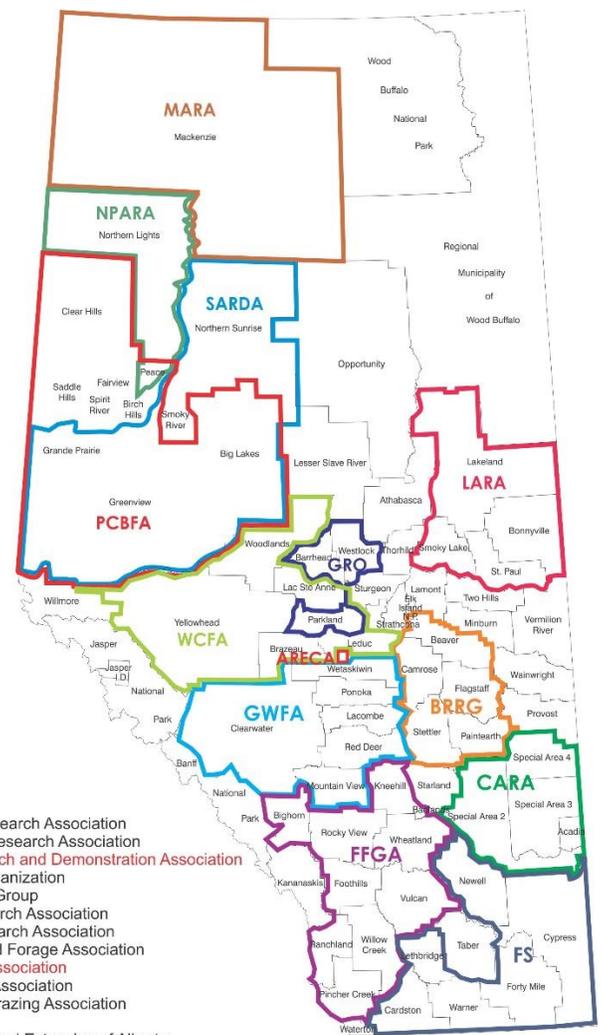
AGRICULTURE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

- **Eight** partners worked with **25** rural counties and municipal districts to deliver environmental extension programs
- **58** Growing Forward 2 supported workshops
- **24** Environmental Farm Plan workshops
- **37** Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Program projects

AGRICULTURE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

- Delivered **12** 4-H educational events
- Organized **six** agricultural tradeshow or fairs
- Employed **67** staff employed
- Received **21** staff speaking requests

AOF Partnership Map



MARA - Mackenzie Applied Research Association
 NPARA - North Peace Applied Research Association
 SARDA - Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association
 GRO - Gateway Research Organization
 BRRG - Battle River Research Group
 CARA - Chinook Applied Research Association
 LARA - Lakeland Applied Research Association
 PCBFA - Peace County Beef and Forage Association
 WCFA - West Central Forage Association
 GWFA - Gray Wooded Forage Association
 FGFA - Foothills Forage and Grazing Association
 FS - Farming Smarter
 ARECA - Agricultural Research and Extension of Alberta

Report on Finances

Over the 2016 fiscal year, ARECA staff managed the resources entrusted to us by our partners to deliver valuable services to Alberta farmers and our member organizations. The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibility for financial reporting and is responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements. The ARECA Board approves the financial information included in this report and appointed MNP of Leduc, AB to conduct an audit of our year-end financial statements in accordance with generally accepted not-for-profit auditing standards.

Statement of Financial Position at December 31, 2016

	2016	2015
Assets		
Current		
Cash	256,515	201,960
Accounts receivable	279,050	156,217
Prepaid expenses	8,273	4,926
Good and Service Tax receivable	3,592	41,932
	547,430	405,035
Capital assets <i>(Note 3)</i>	4,037	5,107
	551,467	410,142
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable	165,942	202,642
Deferred contribution	232,375	15,000
Source deductions	-	1,224
	398,317	218,866
Contingencies <i>(Note 8)</i>		
Commitments <i>(Note 6)</i>		
Net Assets		
Investment in capital	4,037	5,107
Unrestricted net	129,113	186,169
Internally restricted	20,000	-
	153,150	191,276
	551,467	410,142

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the year ending December 31, 2016

	2016	2015
Revenue		
EFP	375,009	360,760
Regional Variety Trials	311,612	269,780
CTF	217,704	329,900
General admin	116,649	101,452
Species At Risk project	88,189	-
AOF - core	80,000	191,629
AOF - pest mon	55,000	57,500
Sanfoin project	49,180	-
AOF - enhancement	43,136	-
Blackleg project	27,000	-
Conference revenue	19,174	122,859
Forage pricing survey	3,600	3,600
Total revenue	1,386,253	1,437,480
Expenses		
EFP	375,009	360,760
Regional Variety	310,581	284,108
CTF	224,789	367,107
General admin.	149,623	142,170
Species At Risk project	88,189	-
AOF - core	80,001	191,629
AOF - pest mon	55,000	57,500
Sanfoin project expenses	49,424	-
AOF - enhancement	43,136	-
Blackleg project	27,990	-
Conference expenses	17,036	124,241
Forage pricing survey	3,600	3,600
Total expenses	1,424,378	1,531,115
Deficiency	(38,125)	(93,635)

2016 ARECA Board of Directors and Staff

Tom McMillan
Vice-chair

Gateway Research Organization

Dicky Driedger
Director at Large

Mackenzie Applied Research Association

Bill Gaugler
Director at Large

North Peace Applied Research Association

Herman Wyering
Treasurer

Grey Wooded Forage Association

Randy Kuriga
Director at Large

Peace Country Beef and Forage Association

Ian Murray
Chair

Foothills Forage & Grazing Association

Ann Rafa
Director at Large

Chinook Applied Research Association

Doreen Blumhagen
Director at Large

Battle River Research Group

Louis Dechaine
Secretary

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association

ARECA Staff

Executive Director
Janette McDonald

Alberta Environmental Farm Plan Director

Paul Watson

Alberta Environmental Farm Plan Manager

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