



Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation Annual Report 2010

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President's Message



It has been a pleasure for me to serve as President of the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AICF) during 2010 and to work together with the committed group of volunteers who serve as Governors in carrying forward the worthy endeavours of the Foundation.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to AICF's supporters, donors and sponsors whose generous contributions sustain and advance the Foundation's initiatives. Through your dedication, Canadians are gaining a better understanding of the role of agriculture in today's world and a new generation of skilled professionals is supported in their pursuit of advancing agricultural knowledge.

The Foundation has been honoured to maintain the legacies of successful professional agrologists through the administration of scholarships, grants and lectures made possible by significant bequeathings. Legacies of individuals such as Dr. Karl C. Ivarson, Dr. Donald J. Blackburn, Dr. Douglas McRorie, and the founder of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, Dr. Leonard S. Klinck, connect Canada's remarkable agricultural history with a robust future. As President of the AICF, I thank all who support these legacies and the various other AICF programs and funding initiatives, and encourage others to consider working with the AICF to create your own legacy by developing a fund that will help to move Canadian agriculture to even greater achievements.

Sadly, 2010 saw the loss of one of these eminent individuals. Dr. Karl C. Ivarson, who funded a scholarship program with AICF since 2005, passed away at the age of 86 on August 2, 2010. Dr. Ivarson very generously bequeathed a significant portion of his estate



to AICF to establish a new scholarship fund for students from the Province of Alberta studying post-secondary or graduate studies in agriculture at a Canadian university. AICF will be considering how best to create a worthy legacy for Dr. Ivarson in recognition of this generous gift to the Foundation and to the field of agriculture.

Our thanks is extended to Elizabeth Muckle-Jeffs for her excellent service as Manager of AICF from 2007 to 2010. Elizabeth chose not to extend her contract and finished her term at the close of the year. AICF decided to take this opportunity to renew its relationship with the Agricultural Institute of Canada for Foundation management commencing in 2011.

Fundraising continues as a priority for AICF. I believe a focused effort is required, and this is always challenging when so much depends on volunteers. However, with our renewed relationship with AIC, we have an even greater opportunity to partner on initiatives, and we are already pursuing this option. It will take dedication and time on behalf of the Governors to realize success. I believe this is possible.

I thank all the outgoing Board of Governors and Officers for their work and dedication over the years – Derrick Jamieson, Jim Pietryk, Brian Harvey and William Anderson – your contributions have been remarkable. I welcome all the incoming Governors and look forward to continuing our work together in the future.

Corrina Dawe, PAg

President

Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation 2010/2011

The 2010 AICF Board of Governors

President: Corrina Dawe, PAg, NL

Past President: Derrick Jamieson, PAg, NS

Vice President: Eveline Wolterson, PAg, BC

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RBC Foundation Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship

The RBC Foundation Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship provides up to six \$1,500 scholarships annually to students pursuing graduate studies in Agricultural Economics, Business, Finance and Trade. Five Scholarships were awarded in 2010 to the following recipients:

Ms. Stefanie Fryza, an MSc (Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics) student at the University of Manitoba with a study focus on pricing (marketing) alternatives and risk management. The findings of her research may be relevant to government agencies, extension programs and market advisory services in gaining more insight into producers' decision-making processes.

Mr. Mathew Hink, an MSc (Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics) student at the University of Manitoba whose study area is in agricultural policy, including trade policy. His thesis topic is an investigation into the determinants of trade bias in agriculture.

Mr. Stephen Morison is currently completing his MSc (Land and Food Systems) at the University of British Columbia. His research looks at the problem of urban sprawl and the way that we, through our local democratic governments, decide how land is zoned, with implications on how agricultural land is valued, both financially and socially.

Ms. Jamie Poirier, MSc (Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics) student at the University of Manitoba with an area of interest in decision making under risk and behavioural economics. She will be working with the Canadian Wheat Board to estimate if farmers are risk adverse or risk taking in situations of financial losses.

Mr. Curtis Sawatzky, MSc (Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics), University of Manitoba, is creating a financial and economic feasibility model for a cellulosic ethanol biorefinery, with significance for advancing the industry in an ethical manner.

The five-year commitment from the RBC Foundation to support the McRorie Scholarship expired in 2010. AICF currently has a proposal before the RBC Foundation for continuation of this important scholarship fund.

Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship

The Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship provides two \$2,000 scholarships annually to post-graduate students studying soil sciences in the areas of agriculture, agro-ecology, resource management, environment, geology or other related disciplines. The 2010 recipients were:

Mr. Tyrel Hemsley, MSc Science – Soil Science at the University of Alberta. In the study area of the Athabasca Oil Sands Region (AOSR), Mr. Hemsley's project will quantify the amount of N deposition on the reclaimed landscape and attempt to trace the fate of N in various pools of the soil-plant ecosystem to further help determine the impact of N deposition on land reclamation in the AOSR. Furthermore, the project will assess what stand and site characteristics influence the amount of wet deposition being received on site. Mr. Hemsley is a graduate teaching assistant for introductory soils at the University of Alberta. His future career goal is to work in the field of soil science to increase knowledge of soil-plant interactions and provide insight into the soil development on reclaim landscapes.

Mr. Mathew VanKoughnett is completing a Doctorate of Philosophy in Biology at the University of Western Ontario. The aim of his PhD research is to determine the interactive effects of N deposition and climate warming driven increases in soil freezing on plant productivity and ecosystem function. His hypothesis is that while increased N availability from atmospheric deposition has the potential to enhance plant growth, soil freezing can increase soluble N losses over winter, change microbial community structure, and cause sub-lethal freezing damage to plants, all of which will reduce N uptake over the following growing season. Upon completing his PhD, Mr. VanKoughnett's goal is to continue learning and expanding his knowledge as a postdoctoral researcher specifically in studying the interactions between freezing and N cycling on the management of perennial crops such as tall grass prairies.

For 2011 the Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship for post-graduate studies in soil science has increased to \$3,000.

IUNS Travel Award for the Nutritional Sciences

The International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) program grants funding for travel to graduate students to attend conferences within the purview of the IUNS, to present their research in an oral or poster presentation.

In 2010 there were ten IUNS Travel Award recipients.

- Etham Azarpazhooh, Hussein Hassan, Maryam Khodadi, Bronwen Powell, Marion Roche and Ajaypal Singh, McGill University
- Nileeka Balasuriya, Nova Scotia Agriculture College
- Neelam Dhull, University of Guelph
- Rachael Murphy, University of Alberta
- Lori Vickers, University of British Columbia

Reports detailing the value that the recipients and their institutions received as a result of the participation are available on the AICF website.

Excellence in Extension – The Blackburn Fund

The Blackburn Fund provides up to \$2,000 towards the costs of speakers who promote the principles of extension, adult education and development through workshops, conferences and symposia that involve participants at either a national or pan-provincial level. The 2010 award recipients were:

The **Canadian Agricultural Safety Association** for their workshop “Plan.Farm.Safety – working the plan for confined spaces” held November 15, 2010 in Winnipeg; and

The **Canadian Forage and Grassland Council** for the Western Canadian Holistic Management Conference, February 15-16, 2011 in Lloydminster, Alberta.

AICF Tribute Circle

The AICF Tribute Circle was created as a means to honour loved ones and to celebrate special occasions or achievements. Donors to the Tribute Circle receive a receipt for income purposes and a letter is sent to the family or person being honoured to acknowledge the gift. In 2010, a Tribute Circle donation was made in memory of Ken Proudfoot. To make a Tribute Circle donation, contact the AICF office.

Donors

As a registered charity, personal donations to the AICF Foundation are tax credible. Eight donations to AICF were received from private donors in 2010. AICF gratefully acknowledges the support of:

Dr. Julie Small, Truro, NS
Rodrigue Grégoire, Quebec City, QC
Dr. Nigel Firth, Truro, NS
Dr. Nick Hussar, London, ON
Dr. Paul Sharpe, Kemptville, ON
Rajadurai Rajamahendran, Vancouver, BC
Dr. George Ansah, Ithaca, NY
John Newman, Rosedale Valley, AB
Sandy Todd, St. John’s, NL

Donations were also received from the British Columbia Institute of Agrologists, the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists, Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists and the Prince Edward Island Institute of Agrologists. We sincerely thank the provincial institutes for their support.

Newsletter

The AICF *Connections* Newsletter was published as a Summer edition in 2010. The newsletter is distributed by mail and email and is on line at: www.aic.ca/about/foundation.cfm. To add your name to the mailing list to receive the newsletter, send a request to the AICF office including your full name, email address and mailing address.

Klinck Lectures

The AICF also manages the Klinck Lecture series, but there were no lectures in 2010.

Contact Us

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