

## 2014 DR. KARL C. IVARSON AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

### ALISON MURATA



Alison Murata is the recipient of the PhD scholarship of \$13,000. She is a student at the University of Alberta where she is pursuing her PhD in the Department of Renewable Resources. Her research is focussed on assessing the magnitude, extent, and risk of soil and groundwater contamination at a former University of Alberta waste management facility located within Edmonton city limits, and development of appropriate remediation strategies. The ultimate goal of her research is to decontaminate the soil and groundwater at the site so that it can be returned to the Province of Alberta and potentially used for agricultural purposes.

Her work experience has included studies ranging from wetland hydrology to stream sediment sourcing to soil amendment mineralization. She has been a teaching assistant since 2010, helped lead soil survey field trips, and assisted with a land reclamation project in the Northwest Territories by setting up plots for a soil development experiment at a northern mine. Ms. Murata is the Graduate Student Representative to the Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS) Council and one of two Renewable Resource Councillors for the University of Alberta Graduate Students' Association. In 2014 she worked with the CSSS and the Canadian Geophysical Union as the student member of the Local Organizing Committee for their joint Annual Meeting in Banff, Alberta.

Through a position in the public or private sector, Ms. Murata hopes to carry out applied environmental research. She is especially interested in land remediation and reclamation, reflecting her belief in the importance of protecting soil resources.

### LAUREL PERROTT



Laurel Perrott is an MSc student in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Alberta. Her research is focused on intensive agronomic practices to increase feed barley yields in Alberta. She is examining the effects of stacked agronomic practices, containing a total of 64 different treatment combinations or management practices, as well as researching cultivar-specific responses of ten feed barley varieties to standard and advanced agronomic practices.

Her work experience with a major multinational corporation progressed from field scouting to agronomic advisor role. Ms. Perrott completed her Certified Crop Advisor status in the summer of 2014 and believes that close interaction with producers has enabled her to understand what innovations, ideas, products and management practices they need to be more successful. She has also served as Campus Ambassador for the Canadian Seed Trade Association at the University of Alberta, promoting careers in the seed industry to students, including those in non-agricultural faculties.

Her future career goals include a role as an industrial research scientist specializing in agronomy for a seed, chemical or breeding company and teaching at an agricultural college in Alberta, to continue her commitment to inspiring young people to reach their highest goals in agriculture. She will also remain involved in her family's mixed grain and cow-calf farm.