



AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA FOUNDATION
LA FONDATION DE L'INSTITUT AGRICOLE DU CANADA

Annual Report 2015

Inspiring knowledge and understanding
of the importance of sustainable agriculture to society



President's Message

LARRY SPRATT

President, Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation 2015-2016

In keeping with our charitable purposes, the major focus of the AIC Foundation in the past year was on fostering continued interest in the study of agricultural sciences by university students across Canada. We are proud of our scholarship programs and of the exceptional students who benefitted from them in 2015. Please read about these future agricultural leaders in the following pages.

In the past year our Priority Planning and Fundraising Committee, together with our Patrons, have been working hard to establish support for new scholarship and education programs. Informed by our consultations with the Deans of Canadian university faculties of agriculture, we developed five areas of focus for new scholarship that will address gaps in current scholarship programs and encourage students in their academic studies.

The categories of scholarship programs for which we are now seeking funding from the agricultural sector are:

1. Experiential learning for undergraduates (support for studies in a different geographic location)
2. International study for graduate students (support for studies abroad)
3. Entrance scholarships (support for first year agricultural studies)
4. Sustainable agriculture, environment, and aquaculture
5. Indigenous students (encourage enrolment in agricultural studies by indigenous students)

We are grateful to all of our supporters, donors and sponsors for making our programs possible. Thank you for sharing in our mission to inspire knowledge and understanding of the importance of sustainable agriculture to society. Special thanks to our Patrons for their important efforts on our behalf.

It is a privilege to work with the exceptional group of volunteers who serve with me on the Board of Directors of the AIC Foundation. My thanks to them for their vision, expertise and commitment.

Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation 2015-2016

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Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship



RBC Foundation
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This Scholarship is made available through the generous support of the RBC Foundation. It was established by the AIC Foundation in 1990 to honour past-president and agri-finance innovator Douglas McRorie, PAg, FAIC. In 2015, two graduate students in agricultural business, finance and/or trade were honoured for their achievements.



René Roy is pursuing his PhD in Agricultural Economics at McGill University in Montreal. His research is focused on development of better methods to evaluate environmental goods and services provided by the agricultural sector that are not taken into account in traditional systems of economic accounting. He has worked on a new method to calculate farmland value, used social benefits functions to evaluate a menu of best management practices in agriculture, and is now working on improving econometric methods to capture non-market consumers' willingness to pay estimates that will help producers to better market their products.

René has served in several positions, including President of Student Council at McGill. He founded the Association des Futurs Agronomes du Québec at the university to link students with their future professional association. He has also been a teaching assistant for a variety of courses during his Masters and doctorate studies. René and his wife also operate the family farm, producing pork, dairy and maple syrup. He is President of the Board of Trade in his rural municipality, promoting entrepreneurship and business networking, and is a member of the board of directors of his agricultural cooperative, Unicoop.

René's main career goals are to continue to be involved in the family farm, to remain involved in politics, and later to have a role in teaching. In the long term, he would also like to pursue further education in public administration or law.



Victoria Zeppa is pursuing a Master of Science in Agricultural and Resource Economics degree at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. She is studying the reactions to market development pressures of smallholder farmers and traders in rural Java. She hopes that her research will contribute to understanding of broader development issues, both in terms of market emergence and new class structure, which policymakers need to be informed on when addressing the challenges that manifest in emerging economies.

Victoria is President of the Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology Graduate Students' Association (REESSA) at the University of Alberta and is a teaching assistant for an undergraduate course. She also serves as an editor for the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development at the University of Gottingen in Gottingen, Germany. She has work experience in a number of positions in the federal government. During research trips in Vietnam and Indonesia, and a small-scale farm reforestation initiative in Costa Rica, she has managed small teams in challenging cross-cultural contexts.

Victoria aspires to be a leader and advocate for food security and agricultural market emergence in the developing world. Through obtaining employment with an international research institute she aims to help find sustainable solutions to promote the advancement of local and global food systems that together will help eradicate poverty and end hunger. She also hopes eventually to pursue a PhD to further advance her research interests in global food security and agricultural economics.

Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship for Students in Soil Science and Related Studies

The Karl C. Ivarson Soils Scholarship provides financial support to a student entering their second or subsequent year of graduate studies in soil science in the areas of agriculture, agro-ecology, resource management, environment, geology or other related disciplines.



Jacynthe Masse is completing her PhD program in the Department of Forest and Conservation Sciences, Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia.

Jacynthe's doctoral research is on nitrogen cycling processes and microbial communities to establish links between soil functions and soil microbial activity in reconstructed oil sands soils and in naturally-disturbed soils in Alberta. She believes the oil sands will be Canada's environmental legacy and that a deep understanding of soil formation and soil functioning is one of the keys to successfully restoring ecosystems.

Jacynthe is passionate about soil science and encouraging children to become interested in the topic. She started a long-term partnership with an organization that offers summer camps for children in Evans Lake, BC.

Together they have been developing activities to introduce children to soil science. She introduces local schoolchildren to soils at the UBC botanical garden.

She is a Director on the executive board of the Pacific Regional Society of Soil Science, and serves on the pedology sub-committee in charge of developing and testing the new soil order of Canada for the 4th edition of the Canadian soil classification system. Jacynthe is also translating and developing learning activities in French for an award-winning virtual-learning website on soil science developed at UBC.

Jacynthe hopes to become a university professor, to continue doing research to discover more about how soils work while teaching their importance to students.

The Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation's Purposes

- To advance education by developing and supporting education programs in the agricultural sciences for Canada's agricultural community and the general public;
- To advance education by developing and supporting scholarship programs to foster continued interest in the study of agricultural sciences by university students;
- To promote excellence and efficiency in the Canadian agriculture and food sectors by supporting research on matters of importance to the agricultural community and the general public;
- To promote excellence and efficiency in the Canadian agriculture and food sectors by supporting initiatives of the Agricultural Institute of Canada of benefit to Canada's agricultural community and the general public.

Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship

This scholarship was created by Dr. Karl C. Ivarson through a bequest to the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation. In keeping with Dr. Ivarson's wishes, the scholarship supports students from his home province of Alberta in their pursuit of studies in agricultural sciences.



Nandika Bandara received the PhD scholarship. He is a degree candidate in Food Science and Bioresource Technology in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. His research is focused on value addition to agricultural and food industry byproducts such as soy meal, canola meal, distillers' grains and poultry feathers through developing bio-based materials through biomimetics and nanotechnological approaches. He hopes his research will benefit agricultural and food industries by generating new income sources for waste/byproduct streams.

Nandika is currently serving as the elected Chair of the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science Graduate Student Association at the University of Alberta. He has served on many other committees and positions in a volunteer graduate student capacity in the past five years, including mentoring new grad students in the Department.

After completing his PhD, Nandika hopes to work as a post-doctoral fellow to gain further training to establish himself in the academic field. His ultimate ambition is to become a university professor and to build a research program that will eventually help in improving sustainable agriculture, the economy and to help farming communities in his native Sri Lanka and around the world.

Amy Mangin, a Masters student in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science at the University of Alberta, received the Masters scholarship. Her research is focused on the understanding of the interaction of pyroxasulfone, a newly introduced soil-applied herbicide, and wild oat seed distribution in different cropping systems to optimize efficacy. Wild oat is currently the most economically detrimental weed in Alberta and has developed resistance to many commonly used herbicides. Therefore, development of new herbicides for control is critical.



Amy has served as a Graduate Student Representative on the University of Alberta Graduate Student Association during her degree studies. She has been part of numerous volunteer organizations such as Sustainable Food Edmonton (Little Green Thumbs), Agriculture in the Classroom Manitoba, and Ag More than Ever, allowing her to work with elementary and middle school students to further their understanding of how their food is produced and general agricultural concepts.

Her career objectives include working directly with growers either in an industry or extension research role. She also hopes to pursue a PhD degree in agriculture in the future.

YOUR DONATION TO THE AICF SUPPORTS A

strong future

FOR CANADIAN AGRICULTURE

Donating to the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation is one way to support the future of agriculture. Your donation can be applied to various AICF initiatives, including:

- Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship
- Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Soils Scholarship
- Personal Legacy
- Leonard S. Klinck Lecture Series

For information about these initiatives, visit the AIC Foundation website www.aicfoundation.ca. The Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation is a registered charitable organization (federal registration number 12193 4947 RR0001), all donations are tax creditable and an official tax receipt will be mailed to you.

AICF Annual General Meeting

The AICF Annual General Meeting was held on March 25, 2015.

Eveline Wolterson, PAg, (British Columbia) retired from the Board of Directors. She was recognized for her exceptional service as a Governor/Director of the AICF, as President, and as Chair of the By-Law Review Committee.

Corrina Dawe, PAg, (Newfoundland) was recognized for her outstanding professional work and high level of commitment and dedication as the President of the AICF for the past four years. She will continue as a member of the Board of Directors.

Ali Madani, PhD, served as observer representing the Agricultural Institute of Canada Board of Directors from October 2014 until June 2015.

The Foundation's Priority Planning and Fundraising Committee, chaired by Corrina Dawe, continued development and implementation of a fundraising campaign for our proposed new scholarship programs. They are being assisted by an eminent group of Patrons.

The Education and Scholarship Committee is chaired by David Chanasyk, PhD, and is responsible for selection of recipients of the Foundation's scholarships.

The AICF office moved in early 2015. Our new coordinates are:

300 Earl Grey Drive, Suite 233
Ottawa, Ontario K2T 1C1

www.aicfoundation.ca

Email: manager@aicfoundation.ca

Newsletter

The AICF *Connections* Newsletter was published as a Fall edition in 2015. The newsletter is distributed by email or in hard copy and is available online at aicfoundation.ca.

To have your name added to the mailing list to receive the newsletter, send a request to the AICF office (manager@aicfoundation.ca) including your full name and email address or mailing address.

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The RBC Foundation is recognized for its valued support of the Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship.



AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA FOUNDATION
LA FONDATION DE L'INSTITUT AGRICOLE DU CANADA

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YES! I want to ensure that Canadians have access to programs and information that inspire knowledge and understanding of the importance of sustainable agriculture to society. Please count on me as a donor.

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