



# MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW No. 16

## REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 04, 2023

1:30 PM

Council Chambers  
Administration Building

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#1	CALL TO ORDER		
#2	ADOPTION OF AGENDA		
#3	MINUTES	3.1 Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting minutes held Wednesday, February 02, 2023, to be adopted.	3
		3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes	
		3.3 Action Items	7
#4	DELEGATION	4.1 ASB Orientation	8
#5	BUSINESS	5.1 ASB Resolution 1-23	64
		5.2 Large Animal Veterinarian Supports	89
		5.3 Weed Incentive Program	175
		5.4 Manager's Report	178
#6	MEMBERS REPORTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chair Warren Wohlgemuth</li><li>• Vice Chair Shelley Morrison</li><li>• Deputy Reeve Bill Smith</li><li>• Councillor Dave Berry</li><li>• Member Richard Brochu</li><li>• Member Joshua McMillan</li><li>• Member Dave Gibbard</li></ul>	

#7 CORRESPONDENCE

- AFSC Letter, Saddle Hills County, March 22, 2023
- Map 01 Soil Moisture Reserves as of October 26, 2022
- Map 1 Snowpack Relative to Normal as of March 2, 2023
- Map 1.5 SmAve\_y2022\_m20\_d26
- Map 02 Soil Moisture Deficits as of October 26, 2022
- Map 03 60-day Precipitation Relative to normal as of October 26, 2022
- Map 04 90-day Precipitation Relative to Normal as of October 26, 2022
- Map 05 60-day Precipitation Relative to Normal as of July 25, 2022
- Map 06 Precipitation Relative to Normal November 1 to March 12
- Map 07 Map 06 Precipitation Accumulation November 1 to March 12
- Map 08 Snowpack Relative to Normal as of March 12, 2023
- Map 09 Snow Water as of March 12, 2023
- Map 10 Snow Water Average for March 12, 2023
- Map 11 365-Day Precipitation Relative to Normal as of March 12, 2023
- Map 12 365-Day Precipitation Deficits as of March 12, 2023
- Map 13 10-Year Precipitation Relative to Normal as of March 12, 2023
- Map 14 10 -Year-Day Precipitation Deficits as of March 12, 2023
- Map 15 Yearly Monthly Precipitation Patterns 1991-2020
- Map 16 Growing Season Semi-Monthly Precipitation Patterns 1991-2020

#8 ADJOURNMENT

Minutes of a  
**REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW NO. 16**  
Greenview Administration Building,  
Valleyview, Alberta, on Wednesday, February 1, 2023

#1  
CALL TO ORDER

Chair Warren Wohlgemuth called the meeting to order at 9:30am

PRESENT

A.S.B. Member – Chair	Warren Wohlgemuth
A.S.B. Member – Vice Chair	Shelley Morrison
A.S.B. Member – Deputy Reeve	(virtual) Bill Smith
A.S.B. Member – Councillor	Dave Berry
A.S.B. Member	Joshua McMillan
A.S.B. Member	Richard Brochu
A.S.B. Member	David Gibbard

ATTENDING

Manager, Agriculture Services	Sheila Kaus
Recording Secretary	Brooke Kobe

ABSENT

A.S.B Member – Vice Chair Shelley Morrison

#2  
AGENDA

MOTION: 23.02.148 Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY  
That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the February 1, 2023, Regular  
Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

#3.1  
REGULAR  
AGRICULTURAL  
SERVICE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: 23.02.149 Moved by: MEMBER RICHARD BROCHU  
That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the minutes of the Regular Agricultural  
Service Board Meeting held on Wednesday, November 30, 2022, as amended.

- Beaver harvest

CARRIED

#3.2  
BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM MUNUTES

### 3.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Dave Berry requested when the BBQ will be getting repaired, its going to Council  
February 14.

#3.3  
ACTION ITEMS

### 3.3 ACTION ITEMS

MOTION: 23.02.150 Moved by: MEMBER JOSHUA MCMILLAN  
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Action Items, as presented.

CARRIED

#4.0  
DELEGATION

#### 4.0 DELEGATIONS

##### 4.1 Alberta Agricultural Service Board Orientation

MOTION: 23.02.151 Moved by: Choose an item.

That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Alberta Agriculture Service Board orientation for information, as presented.

DEFER

MOTION: 23.02.152 Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY

That the Agricultural Service Board defer orientation until Doug Macaulay is available, as soon as possible.

CARRIED

#5.0  
BUSINESS

#### 5.0 BUSINESS

##### 5.1 RFD Educational Events

#5.1  
RFD EDUCATIONAL  
EVENTS

MOTION: 23.02.153 Moved by: MEMBER DAVID GIBBARD

That the Agricultural Services Board approve the planned 2023 Agricultural Services Educational Events.

CARRIED

##### 5.2 Nominations for the Farm Family Award

#5.2  
NOMINATIONS FOR  
THE FARM FAMILY  
AWARD

MOTION: 23.02.154 Moved by: MEMBER RICHARD BROCHU

That the Agricultural Service Board approve the acceptance of applications by Greenview Administration for the 2023 Farm Family Award presented annually at Farm Fair International.

CARRIED

##### 5.3 Education in Agricultural Sponsorship Policy

#5.3  
EDUCATION IN  
AGRICULTURAL  
SPONSORSHIP  
POLICY

MOTION: 23.02.155 Moved by: MEMBER JOSHUA MCMILLAN

That the Agriculture Service Board request the draft in Agriculture Sponsorship Policy to be brought back to the ASB for consideration, as amended.

CARRIED

##### 5.4 Managers Report



#5.8  
MANAGER'S  
REPORT

MOTION: 23.02.156 Moved by: DEPUTY REEVE BILL SMITH  
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Managers' report, as presented.

CARRIED

#6 MEMBERS'  
BUSINESS &  
REPORTS

**6.0 MEMBERS' BUSINESS & REPORTS**

ASB MEMBERS  
REPORTS

**CHAIR WARREN WOHLGEMUTH** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- Crossroads Conference
- ASB Provincial Conference

**VICE CHAIR SHELLEY MORRISON** updated the Agriculture Service Board on her recent activities, which include;

**DEPUTY REEVE BILL SMITH** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- Crossroads Conference
- ASB Provincial Conference

**COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- Crossroads Conference
- ASB Provincial Conference

**MEMBER RICHARD BROCHU** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- None

**MEMBER JOSHUA MCMILLAN** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- ASB Provincial Conference

**MEMBER DAVID GIBBARD** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- ASB Provincial Conference

MEMBERS  
BUSINESS AND  
REPORTS

MOTION: 23.02.157 Moved by: MEMBER RICHARD BROCHU  
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Members reports as information.

CARRIED

#7  
CORRESPONDENCE

**7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

ASB  
CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION: 23.02.158 Moved by: MEMBER JOSHUA MCMILLAN

That the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence as information.

#8  
ADJOURNMENT

**8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

CARRIED

MOTION: 23.02.159 Moved by: MEMBER RICHARD BROCHU  
That this Agricultural Service Board meeting adjourn at 10:58 a.m.

CARRIED

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MANAGER, AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

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ASB CHAIR

UNADOPTED

### 3.3 Action Items - Agricultural Services Motion Tracker

No.	Motion	Assigned to	Status
<b>MOTION: 21.12.143</b> December 13, 2021	<b>Moved by: VICE CHAIR SHELLEY MORRISON</b> that the Agricultural Service Board recommend to Council to postpone the Agricultural Plastics Recycle capital purchase project for 2022 and to be considered for 2023.	Sheila Kaus, Agricultural Services Manager	Postponed
<b>MOTION: 22.07.78</b> July 27, 2022	<b>Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY</b> that the Agricultural Service Board approve the importing of Canada Thistle Stem Mining Weevils from the United States, to facilitate a locally available rearing site for eventual weevil distribution on acceptable sites throughout Greenview.	Sarah Cairns, Landcare Coordinator	In Progress
<b>MOTION: 22.08.87</b> August 24, 2022	<b>Moved by: MEMBER RICHARD BROCHU</b> that the Agricultural Service Board recommend Council to direct Administration to explore potential equipment cost recovery options for large animal veterinary service providers, that support MD of Greenview livestock producers.	Sheila Kaus, Agricultural Services Manager	Completed
<b>MOTION: 23.02.155</b> February 1, 2023	<b>Moved by: MEMBER JOSHUA MCMILLAN</b> that the Agriculture Service Board request the draft in Agriculture Sponsorship Policy to be brought back to the ASB for consideration, as amended.	Sarah Cairns, Landcare Coordinator	Completed



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

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SUBJECT:	<b>Agricultural Service Board Orientation</b>		
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
MEETING DATE:	April 4, 2023	CAO:	MANAGER: SK
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	DIR:	PRESENTER: SK
STRATEGIC PLAN:	Governance	LEG:	

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RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial – N/A

**Council Bylaw/Policy – N/A**

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RECOMMENDED ACTION:

**MOTION 1: That the Agricultural Service Board accept the delegation presentation “Agricultural Service Board Orientation” for information, as presented.**

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BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

In 2022, Greenview’s Agricultural Service Board welcomed two new Board members, Josh McMillan and Dave Gibbard. To help orientate them to the Boards responsibilities and duties, Administration reached out to Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation ASB Program Manager, Doug Macaulay, to provide orientation to the Board.

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BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. The benefit of the recommended action is that the Board will be informed as to their duties and responsibilities, as delegated by Greenview Council.

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DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended action.

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ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

**Alternative #1:** The Agricultural Service Board may to decline the orientation presentation, however, Administration does not recommend this as while a refresher for many, the orientation will assist the new board members in understanding their role within Greenview.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion in 2023.

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STAFFING IMPLICATION:

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

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**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:**

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

**INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT**

Inform

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL**

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

**PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC**

Inform - We will keep you informed.

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**FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:**

Administration will work with the Provincial ASB Program Manager to address any concerns or comments in response to the orientation in a timely manner.

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**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- ASB Orientation



# ASB Member Orientation





# Today's Goals

Why do we have Agricultural Service Boards?

What are they?

What are they supposed to do?

What is my role as an ASB member?

What is the role of an agricultural fieldman?

Provincial Committee

ASB Program & ASB Grant

# Why do we have Agricultural Service Boards?

## Soil Erosion



<http://www.mccord-museum.qc.ca/en/collection/artifacts/19770260001>

**Dust Storm, Pearce, Alberta  
November 1942**

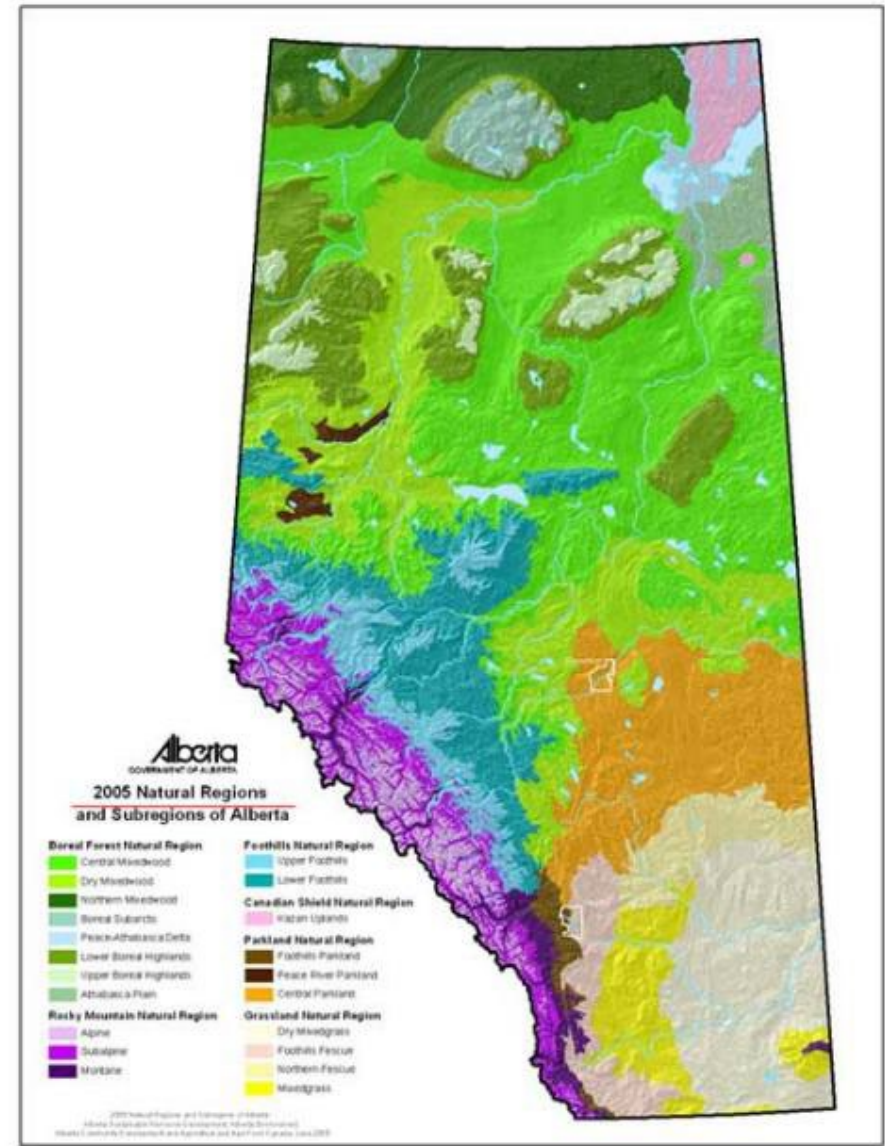
## Weed Infestations



<http://www.phoenixant.com/Prints/60-68.htm>



# Natural Regions & Subregions of Alberta



Alberta  
Land Area:  
158,229,129  
acres

33% of  
land mass  
is farmed

15,861,059  
acres  
natural  
land

# 1943: Agricultural Committee Pilot Project





# S U C C E S S

Because you too can own this face of pure accomplishment

DIY.DESPAIR.COM

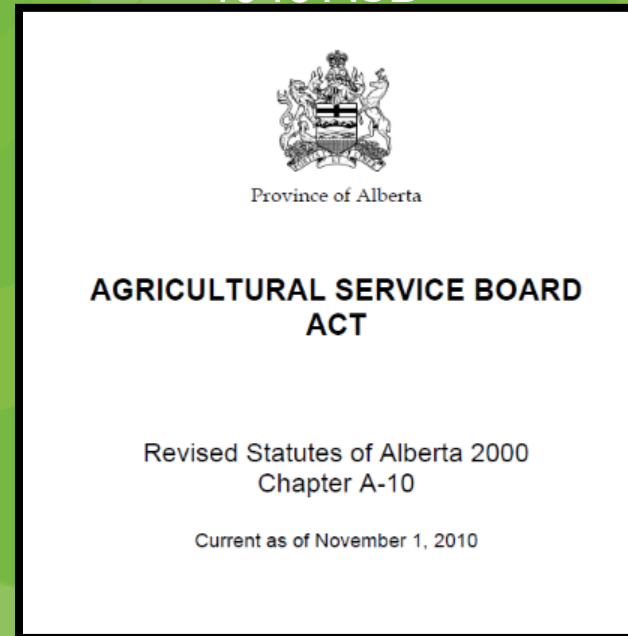
<http://mbtitruths.blogspot.ca/2013/07/how-to-be-successful-as-each-type.html#!/2013/07/how-to-be-successful-as-each-type.html>

# Formation of ASBs

Be it resolved that this conference endorse and recommend the establishment of ASBs in all municipal districts, such boards to be similar to personnel and objectives as the one established in the M.D. of Conrich No. 220 and now in operation and that legislation as may be considered necessary be enacted by the Legislature to authorize the formation of such boards and to designate their powers

Municipal Districts Convention  
November 1944

## 1945 ASB



# “Father” of the ASB Program

William (Bill) Lobay



Provincial Supervisor

Helped to enact the ASB Act

Organized and developed the program

Established the Norway Rat program



# What is an Agricultural Service Board?



MD of Willow Creek  
Agricultural Service Board Members (2018)

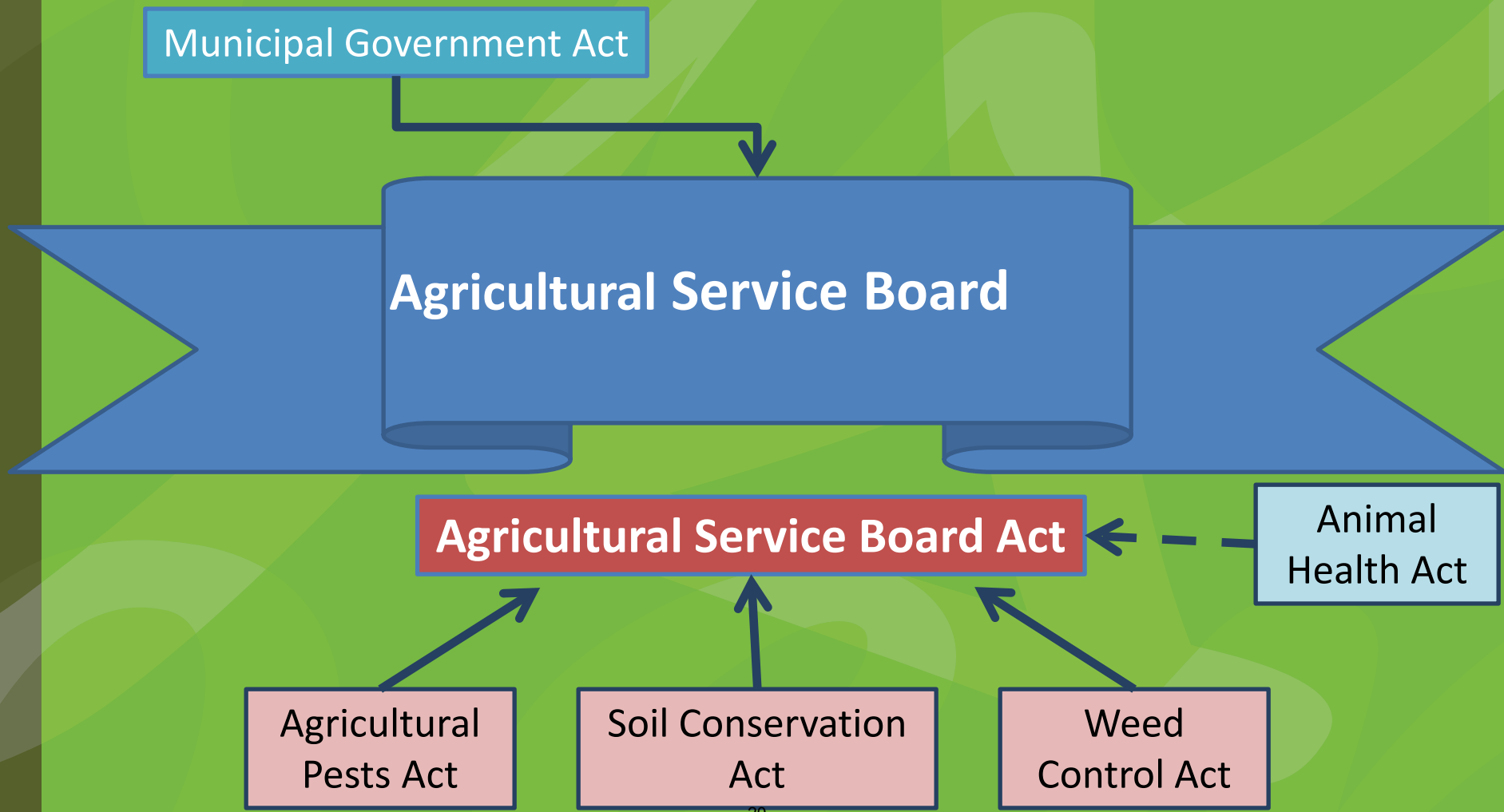


Brazeau County  
Agricultural Service Board Members (2019)

# What are the roles and responsibilities of ASBs?

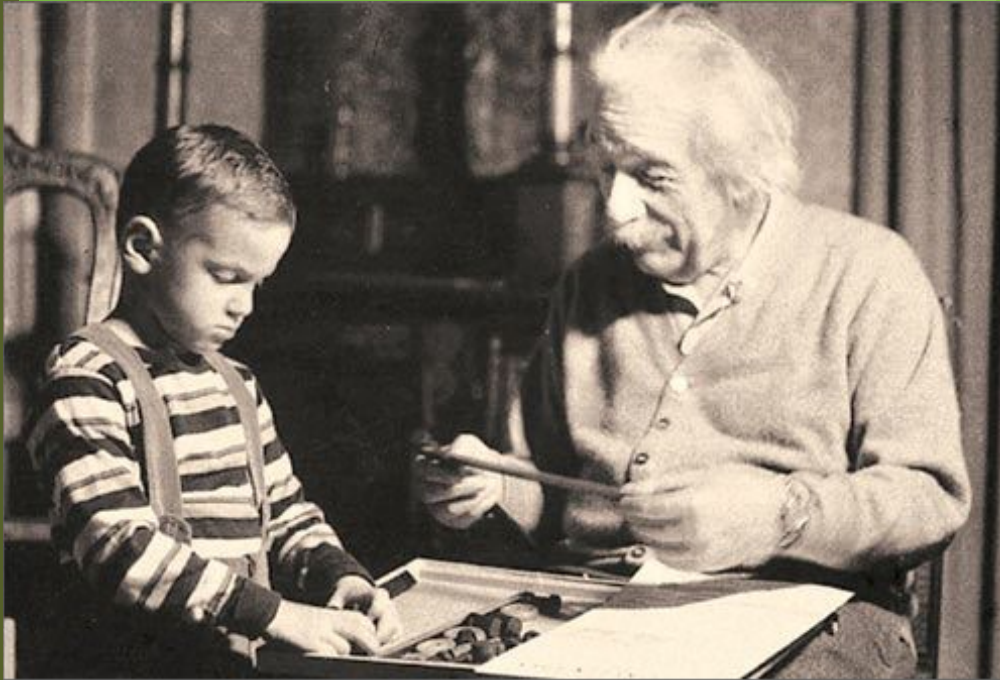
Legislated Duties under the ASB Act  
Roles and Responsibilities  
ASB Members  
Agricultural Fieldman

# Legislation Affecting ASBs





# Legislated Duties of ASBs



Advisory to Council & Minister (Sec 2a)



Advise on weed and pest control  
& soil and water conservation  
programs (Sec 2b)

# Legislated Duties of ASBs



Assist in control of animal diseases (Sec 2c)



Promote sustainable agriculture to improve the economic viability of producers (Sec 2d)



Policy Development (Sec 2e)

# Advisory Committees

Advisory to ASB & to council

May be established permanently or on an “as needed” basis

May have more than one advisory committee





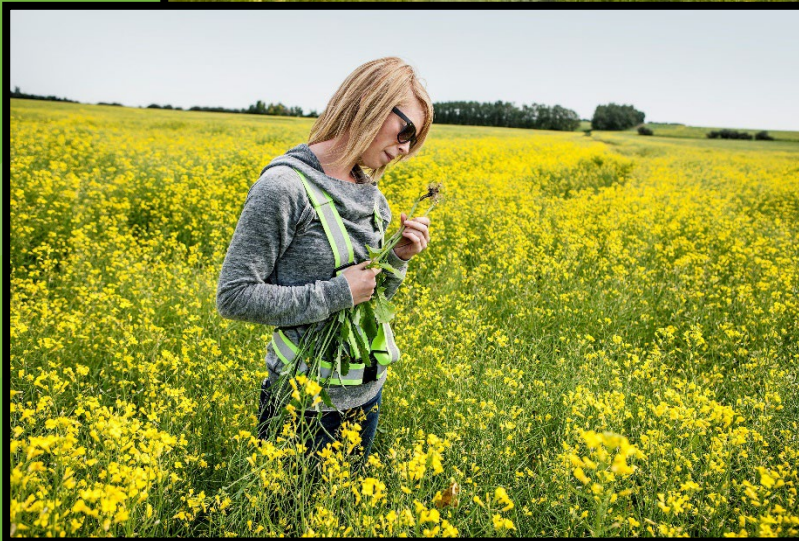
# Municipal Responsibilities

Appoint inspectors

Make bylaws

Control pests/weeds on  
municipal lands

Extension





# Other Roles of ASB include...

Policy Administration  
Agricultural Programming

**Westlock COUNTY**  
growing opportunity

FEBRUARY 9, 2016

POLICY NO. 11.01  
TITLE: AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD

**POLICY STATEMENT:**  
Under the Agricultural Service Board Act of Alberta, municipalities have the option of establishing an agricultural service board to assist them with governance concerning agricultural matters. An agricultural service board can also serve as a platform for co-operation with the Provincial government on agricultural matters and also serves two-way communication between both levels of government on matters of concern and programs.

**PURPOSE:**  
This policy clarifies

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 4

## Meet the Weed Inspectors!

Alberta is extremely susceptible to invasive species. Some species are looking to get a good hold on our waterways and others are looking to invade our productive agricultural land. For this reason, the Weed Control Act, proclaimed in 1997 has existed in some form for more than 100 years, making it Alberta's oldest piece of legislation. Its latest version (proclaimed in June 2019) listed 46 Prohibited Noxious and 29 Noxious weeds requiring either eradication in the case of Prohibited Noxious or control in the case of Noxious. The revisions showed an increased focus on new plants, that most had assumed weren't even in Alberta.

To assist landowners/occupants to identify and develop control of these legislated weeds, Clear Hills County appoints Weed Inspectors annually. One of their goals is to create awareness about these new invasive weeds and why they must be controlled or eradicated.

**Weed Report vs. Weed Notice**

Should a Weed Inspector discover a noxious weed, they will write up a Weed Report and inform the landowner of the weed infestation. This is not a Weed Notice. A Weed Report is offered as an informational tool to encourage landowners to control the weeds in question or to contact the Agricultural Services Department to learn more about plant management.

A Weed Notice, on the other hand, is a legal document under the Alberta Weed Control Act. A Notice will be issued if a landowner has repeatedly failed to control the weeds identified in the Weed Report. A Weed Notice is a document that, if not complied with, will lead Clear Hills County to take control of the weeds in question with the landowner still responsible for the costs of the control.

Under the Act, Weed Inspectors may enter at any reasonable hour on land premises, and inspect the land or any crops, hay, etc. on the premises.

For more information contact Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman at 780-845-3915 or email [greg@clearhillscounty.ab.ca](mailto:greg@clearhillscounty.ab.ca).

**2019 Weed Inspectors**

Cindy Campbell  
Cheryl Berggren  
Crystal Dei  
Roxanne Lefebvre  
Tyrell Bean

December 2018  
Volume 12, Issue 7

## The Municipal District of Wainwright No.61

Partners in Rural Conservation  
[www.mdwainwright.ca](http://www.mdwainwright.ca)

### Is Clubroot now a Province Wide Issue?

Is clubroot now a Province wide issue? With recent findings of clubroot in Big Lakes County (Peace Region, 2017), Rocky View County (South Region, 2018) and more positive locations in Saskatchewan, the question certainly comes to mind. The M.D. of Wainwright completed clubroot surveys on 66 locations across the municipality. Both James and myself found 0 positive fields for clubroot. We hope to reduce the spread of producers implementing best management practices as an industry we need to end the stigma towards producers who have positive fields. Clubroot is a manageable disease if best management practices are followed.

According to the Clubroot Management plan the best management practices for clubroot include:

- Rotations: A 1 in 4 is recommended, however longer a field is without canola in the rotation, resistant varieties. This is not to the developments of clubroot pathogens against the disease.
- Soil Management: No till operations and positive fields will reduce the spread. If you have any questions regarding clubroot the office at 780-842-4454.

As of December 1, 2018, you will need a veterinary prescription to access medically important antimicrobials. Due to changes by Health Canada, these antimicrobials will no longer be sold to authorized medicine sales outlet retail stores. You will only be able to access them through the clinic, pharmacies or commercial feed mills.

The Federal and Provincial Government along with industry partners are working towards reducing the threat of microbial resistance in human and animal health.

continue to work with your veterinarian to identify and manage your animal health needs. For information about changes including affected products visit [HealthCanada.ca/en/services/antibiotic-resistance/responsible-use.html](http://HealthCanada.ca/en/services/antibiotic-resistance/responsible-use.html)

**École Barrhead Elementary School**  
27 September 2019

On Wednesday, the Grades 4 and 5 took part in the Ag Day, "City Slickers" at the County provides. They visited different farms, Barrhead Vet Ag Barn, KNM Sales and Service and had some visitors (furl) the school as well. It was a beautiful sunny day for the tour and it had a great time!

**Westlock COUNTY**  
growing opportunity

## WESTLOCK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT TREEMAKERS PROGRAM 2020

- Privacy, Beautification, Windbreaks, Shade, Fruit
- All trees are suitable for our climate and are winter hardy
- Trees are at an affordable price because we buy in bulk and pass those savings onto our county residents
- Plant today and watch your yard transform for years to come

# Strategic Planning

**Municipal District of Peace No.135  
Agricultural Service Board  
Strategic Plan 2017-2019  
November 7, 2016**

**Mission:**  
The Agricultural Service Board provides services and programs to all residents of the Municipal District of Peace No.135 to promote, protect, diversify and increase agricultural production and sustainability.


**Vision:**  
To achieve a vibrant, sustainable agricultural community that protects our environmental resources and rural lifestyle.

**Guiding Values:**

1. Fair and effective enforcement of legislation delegated to Agricultural Service Board.
2. Conserve natural resources within the mandate of the Municipal Development Plan.
3. Proactive planning for environmentally sustainable practices.
4. Find the balance of agricultural, residential and industrial uses of land and water for municipal residents.

**Goals:**

1. To enforce the *Weed Control Act*.
2. To enforce the *Agricultural Pest Act*.
3. To enforce the *Soil Conservation Act*.
4. To assist with the *Animal Health Act*.
5. To provide Agricultural Extension Services.
6. To develop and deliver collaborative environmental stewardship initiatives that result in sustainable and diverse growth.
7. To provide professional development for the Agricultural Service Board and staff.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW NO. 16  
"A Great Place to Live, Work and Play"

**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD  
STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN  
2017-2019**

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ASB Strategic Business Plan 1

# Other Legislated Duties



Report on Activities Annually to  
Council (sec 4)



Ensure an Agricultural Fieldman is  
Appointed (sec 8)

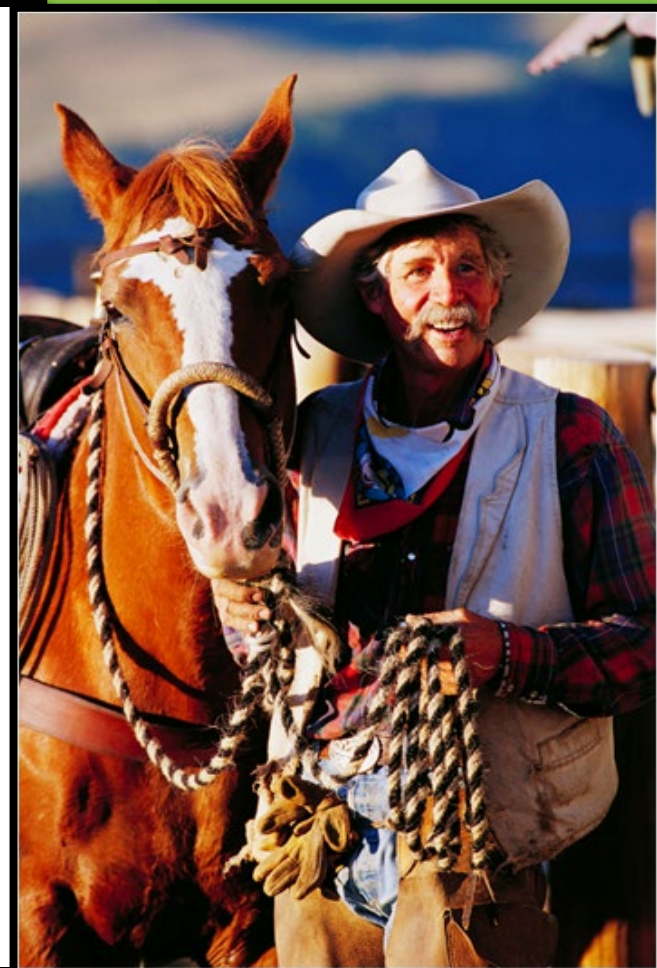


# Agricultural Service Board Act





# ASB Membership



# Role of ASB Member





# Helpful Material

## Orientation Manual for Agricultural Service Board Members



## Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards

### Agricultural Service Board Grant Program

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Grant Program promotes long-term sustainability of the agriculture industry and rural communities and the development and delivery of resource management programming. ASBs are responsible for implementing and enforcing legislative requirements under the *Agricultural Service Board Act*, the *Weed Control Act* (WCA), the *Agricultural Pests Act* (APA), the *Soil Conservation Act* (SCA) and assist with the control of animal disease under the *Animal Health Act* (AHA).



### 2019-20 Annual Impacts

- \$11.4 million in annual grants awarded to 69 Agricultural Service Boards to support legislative requirements
- \$1.78 million in annual grants to 64 Agricultural Service Boards for environmental programming
- ASBs work to protect 50.5 million acres of farmland, 62,000 farm operators and 43,000 farms from agricultural pests, weeds and soil erosion by enforcing the APA, WCA, and the SCA
- 220 full-time, 155 part-time and 434 seasonal employees supported.
- ABSs leveraged grant dollars at a 4:1 ratio (i.e. 80% municipal and 20% provincial funding). The accumulative economic output is valued at \$102.6 million annually.

#### Market Access

ASBs are key to Alberta's robust pest surveillance network that helps Albertans maintain market access by mitigating the risk of agricultural pest threats.

#### Weed Control

- 52,417 prohibited and noxious weed infestations (sites) were investigated and managed
- Over 103,172 kilometers of municipal roadways weeds controlled by Integrated Pest Management means including mechanical, chemical and cultural methods such as hand picking or biological control technologies

agriculture.alberta.ca  
September 2019

Classification: Protected A

# What is an Agricultural Fieldman?



Full time employee  
Qualified person  
Legislated duties:

- Implement agricultural policies & programs
- Manage agricultural resources of the municipality

Designated officer  
Inspector

# Fieldman Responsibilities

Designated Officer

- Agricultural Pest Act
- Soil Conservation Act
- Weed Control Act

Authorized Person

- Animal Health Act

Manage agricultural  
resources

Implement policy





# What Does an Ag Fieldman Do?



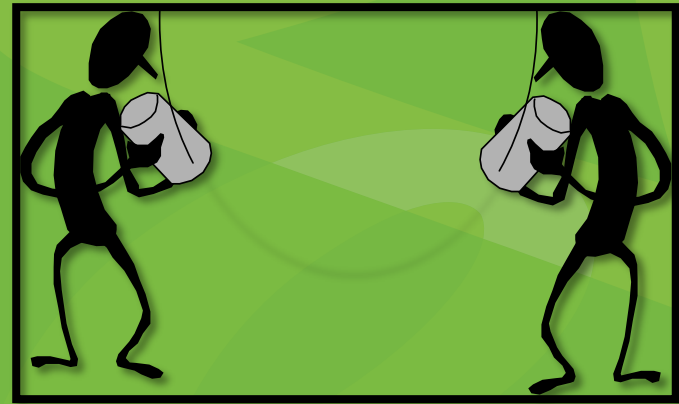
Administration



Implement Policy & Programs



Regulatory



Communication & Liaison

# ASBPC Committee members

Position	Members	Alternates	Representation
Region Rep.	Sebastien Dutrisac (Chair)	Cliff Wowdzia	Northeast Region
Region Rep.	Christi Friesen	Robert Chrenek	Peace Region
Region Rep.	Morgan Rockenbach	John Van Driesten	South Region
Region Rep.	Brenda Knight (Vice-Chair)	Kathy Rooyakkers	Central Region
Region Rep.	Walter Preugschas	Ross Bohnet	Northwest Region
Secretary	Aaron Van Beers		AAAF
Executive Assistant	Linda Hunt		ASBPC
RMA Rep.	Jason Schneider		RMA
AAAF President	Jane Fulton		AAAF
ASB Program Manager	Doug Macaulay		Agriculture and Forestry
Recording Secretary	Arlene Stephens		Agriculture and Forestry

# Role of Provincial Committee

Provide advice and recommendations to ASBs and AF

Increase communication between ASBs and AF (ASB Program Manager)

Represent views of all ASBs at ministerial and

Department Meetings

Elevate the significance of ASBs

Work cooperatively with AF, RMA, AAAF and other organizations on agricultural issues

Increase the policy development capacity of ASBs.

Review and approve resolutions passed at Regional ASB Meetings



# AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS

75 years of promoting sustainable agriculture in Alberta

[Home](#)   [About ASBs](#) ▾   [About ASB Provincial Committee](#) ▾   [Resolutions](#) ▾   [Upcoming Events](#) ▾   [Contact](#) ▾   ↓

[Agriculture Disaster Declarations 2021](#)   [ASB Connector E-Newsletter](#)

## POSTS

JUNE 17, 2022

### Agriculture Disaster Declarations 2022

Southern Region Cypress County Cardston County MD of Taber MD of Willow Creek Updated June 20, 2022 1:30pm Guide for Declaring Municipal Agriculture Disasters in Alberta

JUNE 23, 2022

### Wild Boar Update

Every municipality can participate in the Wild Boar Control Program by extending information to their rate payers about the impacts of Wild Boar at large, and making landowners aware of the control programs and compensation available for damage to crops through the Wildlife



#### FOLLOW BLOG VIA EMAIL

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 121 other followers

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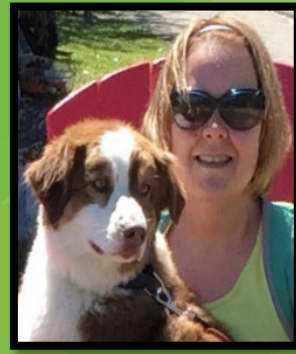
# Minister's Representative



# The Agricultural Service Board Unit Team



**Alan Efetha**  
Provincial ASB Specialist



**Kellie Jackson**  
Strategic Evaluation  
Specialist



**Anita Ash**  
ASB Program Support



**Doug Macaulay**  
ASB Program Manager



# Contacts



Krista deMilliano  
Chief Provincial Plant Health Officer



Dale Chrapko  
Manager  
Natural Resources Programs



Shelley Barkley  
Entomology Programs



Karen Wickerson  
Rat Control Program



Jie Feng  
Unit Lead - Diagnostics



Mike Harding  
Plant Pathologist



Gayah Sieusahai  
Pest Regulatory Officer



Chris Neeser  
Weed Scientist



Hannah McKenzie  
Wild boar and pest  
program specialist



Trevor Wallace  
Soil Conservation Officer/  
Nutrient Management Specialist



David Feindel  
Director, Plant and Bee Health  
Surveillance Section





# Agricultural Service Boards Program – Overview

Local boards work in their communities to help control weeds and pests, conserve soil and water and encourage sustainable agriculture.

On this page:

[Overview](#)

[Unique partnership](#)

[Municipal bylaws](#)

[Agricultural service board grant](#)

[Advisory committees](#)

[Contact](#)

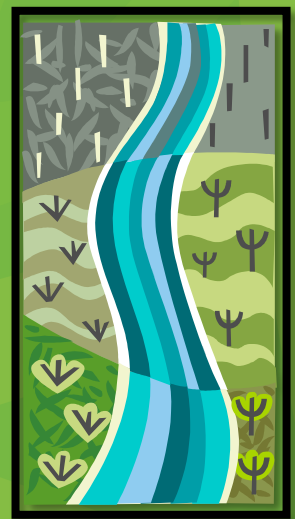
[Functions](#)

[Weed and pest control](#)

# ASB Program Grants



Legislative  
Funding  
Stream



Resource  
Management  
Funding  
Stream



Rat  
Control  
Stream

# What should we use ASB Grant Money for?

## Labour

- Salary, wages, benefits, professional development

## Operating Expenses

- Vehicles, equipment

## Materials & Supplies

## Office Operations

## Contracted Services

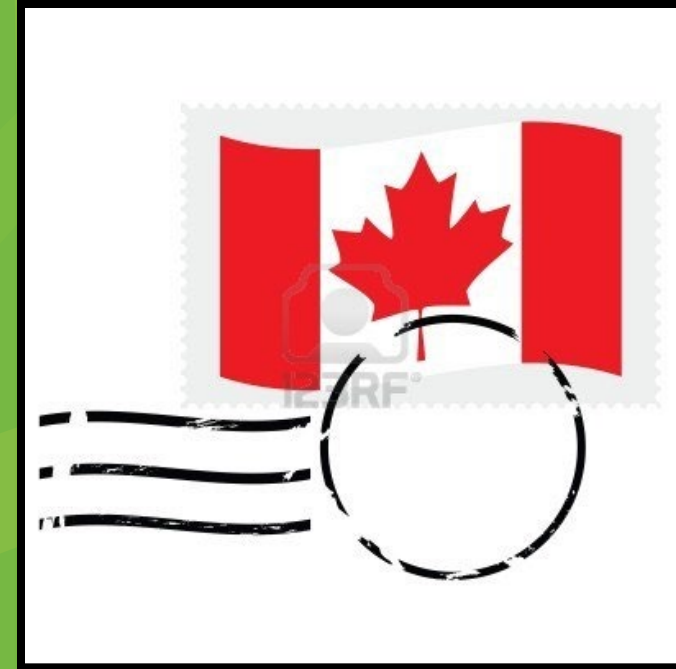
# ASB Grant Eligibility & Application



1. Must be a municipality with an established ASB



2. Must have an agricultural fieldman appointed



3. Application postmarked before due date



# Focus of Programming

*Weed Control Act*



*Agricultural Pests Act*



*Soil Conservation Act*



*Animal Health Act*



Education & Extension



# ASB Regional Liaison Program

- Replaces former Key Contact Program
- Goal is to provide updates to Agricultural Fieldmen to share with ASBs and their colleagues on AF programming & initiatives
- To address regional issues and concerns brought forward
- To attend Region's Regional Conference and the ASB Provincial Conference when possible
- Spring and Fall ADM Town Halls hosted by the ASB Provincial Committee

# Regional Liaison Team

REGION	LIAISON	ALTERNATE
PEACE	Gayah Sieusahai	Dan Benson
NORTHWEST	Trevor Wallace	Shawn Elgert
NORTHEAST	Cassandra Docherty	Hannah Mckenzie
CENTRAL	Kellie Jackson	
SOUTH	Alan Efetha	Joe Harrington

# ASB Connector



## ASB Connector

ASBs are key to Alberta's robust pest surveillance network that helps Albertans maintain market access by mitigating the risk of agricultural pest threats. This in turn enables the industry to provide assurance to trading partners and continue to produce high-value crops and livestock. The 69 ASBs in Alberta help nearly 60,000 farms and ranches to protect the over 50 million acres they farm.

### April 2022

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### ASB Regional Liaison Program

The ASB Regional Liaison Program replaces the Key Contact Program and has moved to a virtual and regional approach.

Your virtual regional liaison is part of a special team of liaisons who will be able to provide you with monthly updates on both policy initiatives and programs. They will be your virtual conduit between your ASB and the department.



# ASB Town Hall with ADM

ASB Town halls with ADM Primary Agriculture John Conrad scheduled Spring & Fall  
Focused on engaging ASBs / Chairs  
Updates on recent Ministry Initiatives  
Question / Discussion Focused

# Wild Boar at Large in Alberta

- Wild Boar Eradication Project & Wild Boar at Large Bounty Program
- Partnership with Alberta Pork who have contracted a wild boar specialist
- Alberta Invasive Species Council – Squeal on Pigs
- Alberta Environment & Parks, K9 trained dogs for detection
- New Website: <https://www.alberta.ca/wild-boar.aspx>
- Report wild boar at [af.wildboar@gov.ab.ca](mailto:af.wildboar@gov.ab.ca)





# Agricultural Service Board Act (Land Under Supervision/Order of Reclamation)



# Agricultural Disaster Declarations



- [Home](#)
- [About ASBs](#) ▾
- [About ASB Provincial Committee](#) ▾
- [Resolutions](#) ▾
- [Upcoming Events](#) ▾
- [Contact](#) ▾

- [Agriculture Disaster Declarations 2021](#)
- [ASB Connector E-Newsletter](#)

**JUNE 17, 2022 BY ASBEXECASSISTANT**  
**Agriculture Disaster Declarations 2022**

- [Southern Region](#)
- [Cypress County](#)
- [Cardston County](#)
- [MD of Taber](#)
- [MD of Willow Creek](#)

Updated June 20, 2022 1:30pm

[Guide for Declaring Municipal Agriculture Disasters in Alberta](#)



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# Greenview Policies

## *Agricultural Service Board Act*

**Greenview has staggered the appointments of the Agricultural Service Boards to ensure continuity to the board. The Board consists of 5 members at large and 2 councillors. Councillors are appointed for annually at Councils Organizational Meeting and the Chair and Vice Chair are decided annually at the ASB Organizational meeting. Members at large are appointed in the following terms:**

- **3 members for two-year terms**
- **2 members for three-year terms**

# Greenview Policies

## *Agricultural Service Board Act*

<b>ASB Member Name</b>	<b>Position on Board</b>	<b>Term</b>
<b>Warren Wohlgemuth</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>2 year term Ending 2022</b>
<b>Shelley Morrison</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>2 year term Ending 2023</b>
<b>Bill Smith</b>	<b>Deputy Reeve</b>	<b>1 year term 2022</b>
<b>Dave Berry</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>1 year term 2022</b>
<b>Richard Brochu</b>	<b>Member at Large</b>	<b>2 year term Ending 2023</b>
<b>Larry Smith</b>	<b>Member at Large</b>	<b>3 year term Ending 2022</b>
<b>Mark Pellerin</b>	<b>Member at Large</b>	<b>3 year term Ending 2022</b>

# Greenview Policies

## *Agricultural Service Board Act*

**Policy 6304: Agricultural Research and Demonstration; *not provided***

**Policy 6322: Rental Equipment; *review pending***

**Policy 6309: Agricultural Improvement; *April 2022***

**Policy 6310: Agricultural Service Board; *April 2022***

**Policy 6315: Farm Family Award; *June 2022***

**These policies set out Greenviews commitment to fulfilling the responsibilities of the ASB laid out in the ASB Act.**

# Greenview Policies

## *Agricultural Pest Act*

The Agricultural Pests Act requires municipalities to take active measures to prevent the establishment, control or destroy legislated agricultural pests.

**AG 17: Equipment Sanitation;** *February 2022*

**Policy 6316: Pest Control;** *June 2022*

**Policy 6308: Clubroot of Canola;** *July 2022*

**Policy 6319: Pest Surveillance and Control;** *June 2022*

These policies set out Greenview's active measures under the Agricultural Pests Act



# Greenview Policies

## *Weed Control Act*

The Weed Control Act states that municipalities shall inspect all private and public land for legislated weeds. Noxious Weeds require control, Prohibited Noxious Weeds require destruction.

**Policy 6302: Roadside Vegetation Management**

**Policy 6302-1: Roadside Vegetation Management - Procedure**

**Policy 6303: Weed Control**

**Policy 6303-01: Weed Control – Procedure**

**Policy 6317- Spray Exemptions; *June 2022***

**Policy 6318: Private Land Herbicide Application; *June 2022***

These policies set out Greenviews commitment to fulfilling these responsibilities.

# Greenview Policies

## *Soil Conservation Act*

The Soil Conservation Act directs the responsibility to inspect all public and private lands for incidents of soil erosion. Should an inspection identify Soil Erosion or degradation, the Act empowers the local authority to serve notice, if required.

**Policy 6314: Soil Conservation;** *April 2022*

This policy set out Greenviews commitment to fulfilling these responsibilities.

# Greenview

## *Intermunicipal Appeal Committee*

To help ensure impartial application of the appeal process, Greenview has partnered with Northern Sunrise County, Big Lakes County and the County of Northern Lights to form the Intermunicipal Appeal Committee.

- Covers appeals under the *Agricultural Pests Act and Weed Control Act*
- Appointed in January
- Members at Large preferred

A joint orientation of the Intermunicipal Appeal Committee is being coordinated, to be held in April 2022

- The Agricultural Service Board acts as the Appeal Committee for any Notices given under the Soil Conservation Act.
- Appointed in January, annually.



**Greenview Agricultural Services plays a supportive role in regards to the Animal Health Act, maintaining relationships with veterinarians and working to ensure veterinary services within Greenview.**

- **Policy 6307: Veterinary Service Incorporated; *June 2024***
- **Policy 6311: Animal Health; *April 2022***

# Recap

Why do we have Agricultural Service Boards?

What are they?

What are they supposed to do?

What is my role as an ASB member?

What is the role of an agricultural fieldman?

# Questions?

Doug Macaulay  
780-980-4878  
[doug.macaulay@gov.ab.ca](mailto:doug.macaulay@gov.ab.ca)  
Leduc, AB

Alan Efetha  
403-381-5852  
[alan.efetha@gov.ab.ca](mailto:alan.efetha@gov.ab.ca)





# REQUEST FOR DECISION

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SUBJECT:	<b>Resolution 1-23 Response</b>	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	CAO:	MANAGER: SK
MEETING DATE:	April 4, 2023	DIR:	PRESENTER: SK
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	LEG:	
STRATEGIC PLAN:	Governance		

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## RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

**Provincial – N/A**

**Council Bylaw/Policy – N/A**

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## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

**MOTION 1: That the Agricultural Service Board provide Administration a rating on the Resolution 1-23 response to provide to the Peace Region Provincial Agricultural Service Board representative.**

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## BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

At the 2023 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference, Resolution 1-23 Creation of a Mid-Level Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (AbVMA) Professional Designation, sponsored by Greenview, was carried forward as a resolution the Provincial Committee would seek a response for on behalf of the Provincial Agricultural Service Board delegates.

On March 28<sup>th</sup>, a response to the resolution was received from the Minister of Skilled Trades and Professions, and Deputy Premier, Minister Mandu. Within the letter, the Minister acknowledges the scarcity of veterinarians within rural Alberta and details steps the Alberta Veterinary Technologists Medical Association (ABVTA) and the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association have taken to address the concerns. Two working groups have been established to explore domestic education of veterinarians and veterinary technologists as well as the utilization and retention of individuals within these professions. Both Associations are confident that through working with stakeholders, educational institutions and the Alberta government, the issues will be resolved.

Of note, courses are now available for Registered Veterinary Technicians to be trained in ultrasound to perform pregnancy checks, under the supervision of a veterinarian.

The Provincial Committee forwarded the response to Greenview as the sponsoring municipality for grading to assist the Committee in seeking further clarification or comment from the Minister.

The breakdown for the different grades is as follows:

- 1. Accept the Response:** addresses the resolution as presented or meets the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee.



2. **Accept in Principle:** addresses the resolution in part or contains information that indicates that further action is being considered.
3. **Incomplete:** does not provide enough information or does not completely address the resolution. Follow up is required to solicit information for the Provincial ASB Committee to make an informed decision on how to proceed.
4. **Unsatisfactory:** does not address the resolution as presented or does not meet the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee.

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**BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. The benefit of the recommended action is that the Agricultural Service Board has an opportunity to request further clarification or comment on the Greenview sponsored resolution 1-23.

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**DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended action.

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**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

**Alternative #1:** The Agricultural Service Board may choose not to provide comment, grading or response, however, Administration is not recommending this course of action as this is part of the resolution process, allowing the board to advocate on behalf of Greenview producers.

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**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:**

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion.

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**STAFFING IMPLICATION:**

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

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**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:**

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

**INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT**

Inform

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL**

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

**PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC**

Inform - We will keep you informed.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:

After the Board has informed Administration as to their decision, Administration will communicate those thoughts to the Provincial representative to bring to the table at the April 15<sup>th</sup> Provincial Committee meeting.

---

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Guidelines for roles of RVT Students
- 12-23 Mar 14 Skilled Trades and Professions GOA Response
- Resolution 1-23, 2-23 Response

## Guidelines for the Roles of Registered Veterinary Technologists, Students, and Unregistered Auxiliaries

### Reference Documents:

*Veterinary Profession Act*

*Veterinary Profession General Regulation*

### 1. Core Principles

- Registered Veterinary Technologists (RVTs) are allowed, by legislation, to perform a number of primary animal health care tasks and veterinary practice activities. RVTs are precluded from making a diagnosis, determining a course of treatment (which includes prescribing medications), or performing any surgical procedure.
- Unregistered personnel may only perform tasks that are not generally considered to be medical procedures.
- The level of veterinary supervision required for RVTs performing various tasks is determined by the significance or risk of the procedure as well as the level of training of the RVT.
- The veterinarian is ultimately responsible for veterinary medical outcomes and animal.
- The veterinarian is responsible for verifying the competency or skill level of the employee to whom any procedure is delegated. Verification is achieved by observing and evaluating to the satisfaction of the individual registered ABVMA member.
- A veterinary-client-patient relationship (VCPR) exists prior to delegation of any medical task. The VCPR exists by virtue of the registered veterinarian having sufficient knowledge of a person's animals by examination of the animals, and/or medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animals are kept.

### 2. Definitions

#### **Animal Health Technology (AHT) Student:**

An individual who is enrolled in a Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) accredited program of study in animal health technology.

#### **Employment of Students:**

Employment of students, for the purposes of this document, is defined as the time when a student is working within a veterinary practice and is not receiving formal educational credit for the activity. Students may be remunerated by the practice, through government grants or other outside funding, or they may be voluntary employees (volunteers). Occasional student volunteers (i.e. for a few days) shall only be permitted to engage in activities approved for unregistered persons and to assist the RVT or veterinarian in their regular activities.

**Final Year veterinary Student:** A veterinary student who is enrolled in and eligible to begin the final year of a professional degree program in veterinary medicine that is accredited by the Council on Education of the American and Canadian Veterinary Medical Associations.

**Non Final Year Veterinary Student:**

An individual enrolled in a professional degree program in veterinary medicine that is accredited by the Council on Education of the American and Canadian Veterinary Medical Associations, at a level prior to the final year of study. A final year student in a non-accredited program leading to a professional degree in veterinary medicine is permitted to engage the same as a non-final year student in an accredited program.

**Registered Veterinary Technologist (RVT):**

An animal health technologist (AHT) holding current active membership in good standing with the Alberta Association of Animal Health Technologists (AAAHT) and registered by the ABVMA.

**Entry level RVT:**

An entry level RVT is a person who has graduated from a 2 year Canadian Veterinary Medical Association accredited program in animal health technology, and is registered by the ABVMA. An entry level RVT possesses the skills and knowledge expected of such a person immediately upon graduation.

**Experienced Registered Veterinary Technologist (RVT):**

An experienced RVT is a person who has graduated from a 2 year CVMA accredited program in animal health technology, registered by the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA), who possesses the skills and knowledge beyond those expected of a person immediately upon graduation.

**Advanced Trained RVT:**

An advanced trained RVT is a person who has completed an adjudicated specialty of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) or other program approved by the ABVMA. The credential 'Veterinary Technician Specialty' (VTS) is used to signify a specialty approved by NAVTA.

**Supervising RVT:**

A registered veterinary technologist who has been delegated, by a registered veterinarian, the task of supervising an animal health technologist student or unregulated auxiliary.

**Supervising veterinarian:**

A registered veterinarian who assumes responsibility for the professional care given to an animal by a person working under his or her direction. The supervising veterinarian must have examined the animal, in a timely manner, to assure the delegated animal health care task is in accordance with accepted veterinary medical practice.

**Supervision:**

"Supervision" is the degree of oversight and responsibility that veterinarians undertake when they delegate a veterinary medical procedure to a registered individual who does not possess entitlement to the entire scope of veterinary practice. The level of supervision required is determined by the skill of the



person to whom the task is delegated and the potential harm or risk to the patient, public or personnel. Supervision is identified at three levels:

**Immediate:**

The supervising veterinarian is in the immediate area and within audible and visual range of veterinary practice activity and the person performing the veterinary practice activity,

**Direct:**

The supervising veterinarian is on the premises where the veterinary practice activity is taking place and is quickly and easily available, but not necessarily within sight or hearing range,

**Indirect:**

The Veterinary Profession General Regulation states that the minimum level of supervision provided to technologists is *“in-person communication with the registered veterinarian who directs or controls the technologist at least once during each day that the technologist practices”*. This is interpreted to mean the supervising veterinarian is on the same premises as the supervised veterinary technologist at least once a day and during which time the supervising veterinarian has in- person communication with the supervised person. All veterinary practice activity is performed pursuant to either written or oral instructions of the veterinarian specific to the activity. The veterinarian need not be on the premises at the time the activity is undertaken.

**Unregistered auxiliary:**

An unregistered auxiliary is any person working within a veterinary practice entity (VPE) who is not a registered veterinary technologist (RVT) or registered veterinarian. Unregistered personnel includes receptionists, assistants and other lay personnel, whether formally or on-job trained.

**Veterinarian:**

A registered active Veterinarian in good standing with the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA).

### 3. Registered Veterinary Technologists

The scope of practice that may be delegated to registered veterinary technologists is defined in the Veterinary Profession General Regulation, sec 9(2) which states:

- (2) A technologist may practice all aspects of veterinary medicine other than
  - (a) making a diagnosis
  - (b) determining a course of treatment
  - (c) applying surgical techniques

There are veterinary medical tasks within this scope of practice that, because of the education and experience of the technologist, the complexity of the procedure and risk to patient may only be delegated under a higher level of supervision or to a technologist with specific advanced education. The

Team Task List appended to this Guideline describes the tasks that may be appropriately delegated to technologists with levels of education and experience that are described as follows.

**a. Entry Level RVT**

New graduates from Animal Health Technology programs should be considered competent at entry-to-practice levels (immediately post-graduation). That is, they should be under immediate or direct supervision until it is clear to the responsible veterinarian or RVT that they are ready to perform the tasks outlined in the Task List at the Experienced RVT level.

**b. Experienced RVT**

An experienced RVT possesses the skills and knowledge beyond those expected of a person day-one on the job.

**c. Advanced Trained RVT**

An advanced trained RVT is a person who has completed an adjudicated specialty of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) or other program approved by the ABVMA. The credential 'Veterinary Technician Specialty' (VTS) is used to signify a specialty approved by NAVTA. These training programs provide education not covered in a general CVMA accredited program. Advanced training is required before tasks on the 'Advanced Trained RVT' task list may be delegated at the indicated level of supervision.

**4. Students (Animal Health Technology, Final-year and non-Final year Veterinary students)**

*In all cases a registered veterinarian must assess the competency of a student before allowing them to engage in any veterinary activities.*

The following guidelines apply to the employment, education or participation of Veterinary and AHT students within ABVMA certified veterinary practice entities. Students may be engaged at any time to partake in activities appropriate for any lay person, but when the students are expected to participate in veterinary medical activities, for the purposes of either delivering such services to the public or for the purposes of learning, the following guidelines must be adhered to. These guidelines do not apply to educational activities within an accredited veterinary college or AHT program in which services are not provided to the public.

- The student must be a current student member of the ABVMA before engaging in veterinary activity, regardless of whether they are engaged as an employee or volunteer.
- The certified practice must apply for permission from the Registrar to employ a student. The application must provide the employment location, program of study, educational institute, anticipated year of graduation and the name of the responsible veterinarian or veterinarians, terms of employment, and a brief outline of the duties and responsibilities the student will be required to assume.
- It is recommended that a generic statement is included on clinic consent forms that inform the animal owner that students may be involved in the treatment of their animals.
- A registered veterinarian or permit holder may charge and collect fees for the services performed by a student employed in the practice.
- A student member shall not be left in charge of a practice.
- A student member may not sign documents that require the signature of a graduate veterinarian. A student must not be represented to the public as being a fully registered veterinarian through the use

of Dr., DVM or veterinarian.

**a. Veterinary (Non-final Year) and Animal Health Technology Students:**

These students may participate in veterinary medical procedures in an instructional capacity, meaning that these procedures are undertaken in concert with a fully registered veterinarian or veterinary technologist. Students of Veterinary or AHT programs (including distance learning) may receive direct instruction and experience in veterinary medical procedures through their volunteering or employment in a certified veterinary practice. No veterinary procedure may be delegated to these individuals in an independent fashion. They may:

- Perform all tasks normally delegated to an unregistered person (see Task List).
- Assist the active registered veterinary technologist (RVT) in their regular activities.
- Assist the active registered supervising Veterinarian (DVM) in their regular activities.
- Participate in medical procedures, in a learning capacity, under the direct instruction of and in concert with an RVT or registered veterinarian.
- Be instructed in all activities that an RVT may engage in (see Task List).

**b. Final Year Veterinary Students from Accredited Schools:**

- May practice veterinary medicine, with the consent of the Registrar of the ABVMA.
- The supervising veterinarian shall ensure that s/he reviews with the student member on a daily basis all services performed by the student.
- Direct or immediate supervision by a registered veterinarian is required for veterinary procedures restricted to registered veterinarian (i.e. making a diagnosis, determining a course of treatment (which includes prescribing medications), or performing any surgical procedure)
- Tasks normally delegated to an RVT may be performed under indirect supervision.
- A final year veterinary student must not perform a veterinary service unless the owner of the animal has given consent (written recommended) for student involvement.

**5. Unregistered auxiliaries**

Unregistered auxiliaries (lay personnel) do not possess ABVMA verified education, training, qualifications or skills. Programs such as Veterinary Medical Assistant, Veterinary Medical Receptionist, and Veterinary Technical Assistant provide valuable training that graduates may apply within a veterinary practice. Graduates from these programs may be of great benefit to veterinary practice, however these programs are not accredited and graduates are not eligible for registration and as such are not regulated by ABVMA. No veterinary medical tasks may be delegated to these individuals. The veterinarian remains responsible for verifying the competency and skill of all employees before delegating any animal care tasks.

**6. Delegation to other specifically qualified employees not registered with the ABVMA**

The Veterinary Profession Act and General Regulations provide an exclusive scope of practice of veterinary medicine to registered veterinarians. The Act also provides that veterinary medical tasks may be delegated to appropriately supervised registered veterinary technologists.

The ABVMA recognizes that it is acceptable for a veterinary practice entity to employ specifically qualified individuals as part of the health care team. The services provided by these individuals may have an important impact on animal health. While these services are commonly performed outside of a VPE, when these services are performed by an employee of the veterinary practice, the veterinarian is responsible for the outcome. Some of these services are listed within the Team Task List.

Examples of such qualified individuals might include nutritionists, dog groomers, equine farriers, cattle hoof trimmers etc. It is unacceptable for these individuals to engage in tasks that are considered the practice of veterinary medicine.

In the event a veterinarian or permit holder employs a non-registered individual for the provision of veterinary related services, the following conditions **must** be met:

- The individual is employed by the veterinarian or permit holder.
- The individual has documented unique or advanced education that the veterinarian accepts as appropriate in order to delegate the tasks.
- The area / scope of the veterinary service is related to the education.
- The informed consent of the client / animal owner is documented.
- The veterinarian must provide an appropriate level of supervision.
- The veterinarian assumes liability and remains responsible for the outcomes and overall management of the case / care of the animal(s).
- The veterinarian **must not** delegate any service that is considered a medical service performed in regards to an animal.

## ABVMA TEAM APPROVED TASKS LIST

A comprehensive (but not exhaustive) list of tasks is included in the Task List that details what may be delegated to an advanced trained RVT, an experienced RVT, an entry-level RVT and unregistered auxiliaries.

TASK or delegated duty	Unregistered Auxiliary	Entry-Level RVT	Experienced RVT	Advanced Trained RVT
<b>OFFICE AND HOSPITAL PROCEDURES AND CLIENT RELATIONS</b>				
Make appointments	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Handle telephone contacts	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Check in and release patients	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Admit and discharge patients, including taking history and communicating instructions	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Obtain informed consent	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Maintain records, and prepare appropriate certificates for signature	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Perform basic filing of medical records, radiographs, lab reports, etc.	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Maintain x-ray, surgery, anesthesia, and laboratory logs	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Recognize and respond appropriately to veterinary medical emergencies	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Maintain controlled substance logs	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Maintain basic cleanliness and orderliness of a veterinary facility (including hospital, clinic, practice, or laboratory)	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Perform basic veterinary medical record keeping procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. develop computer skills</li> <li>b. be able to utilize common management software programs</li> <li>c. be familiar with veterinary on-line services</li> </ul>	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Administer and maintain Biosecurity Protocols of the Veterinary Practice Entity	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>				
Communicate with clients, including responding appropriately to emergency situations	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Write business letters, reports, and client education handouts	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
<b>NUTRITION</b>				
Communicate basic nutritional information	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect

\*Any task marked N/A may not be performed by that employee category

Version November 2015



<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
Communicate companion animal nutritional life-stage counseling	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Communicate companion animal clinical nutritional counseling	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY</b>				
Dispense products prescribed by a registered veterinarian in accordance with Council Guidelines	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform logistical services in relation to dispensing, including inventory selection, counting pills, and preparing labels, completing the sale	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Label and perform final check of prescriptions	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Communicate proper use of medications including safety, side effects, withdrawal time etc	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Calculate dosages as prescribed by veterinarian	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Manage biomedical and hazardous waste, including storage, handling and disposal	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Handle controlled substances	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Handle and dispose of biomedical sharps	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform inventory management, including receiving, storage and handling	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Prepare medications & reconstitute vaccines	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Respond to abnormal and normal responses to medication	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Use and explain appropriate routes and methods of drug and vaccine administration	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>EXAMINATION ROOM PROCEDURES</b>				
Assess temperature, pulse and respiration for dog, cat, horse and cow	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Auscultate heart and lungs using a stethoscope	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Provide care & maintenance of treatment room equipment	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
<b>RESTRAIN PATIENTS</b>				
Place in, and remove small animals from cages	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Restrain small animals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- apply dog safety muzzle</li> <li>- apply Elizabethan collar</li> <li>- apply restraint pole</li> </ul>	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Place and restrain small animals on tables	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Halter tie and lead horses and cattle	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect

\*Any task marked N/A may not be performed by that employee category

Version November 2015

<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
Restrain birds	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Restrain horses - apply twitch	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Restrain cattle - apply bovine tail restraint - apply nose tongs/leads	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Restrain sheep and swine	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Load large animals	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
<b>PERFORM SURGICAL PREPARATIONS</b>				
Prepare surgical equipment/supplies	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Sterilize instruments & supplies using appropriate methods	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Prepare gowns, masks, gloves and drapes	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Clip and initially prepare surgical sites	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Prepare surgical sites using aseptic techniques	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Operate & maintain autoclaves	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Provide operating room sanitation & care	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Position patients (common procedures)	Direct	Direct	Direct	Direct
Place and secure IV catheters	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Open sterile pack and gown for surgery	Direct	Direct	Direct	Direct
Keep operative records	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Maintain surgical lasers	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>PERFORM AS SURGICAL ASSISTANT OR CIRCULATING NURSE</b>				
Properly pass instruments and supplies during surgery	N/A	Immediate	Immediate	Immediate
Maintain proper operating room conduct and asepsis	N/A	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Assist with care of exposed tissues and organs	N/A	Immediate	Immediate	Immediate
Keep operative records	N/A	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Operate/maintain/suction and cautery machines	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Operate and maintain fiber optic equipment	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
<b>PERFORM POST-SURGICAL CLEAN-UP FOR:</b>				
Equipment	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Surgical room or area	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect

\*Any task marked N/A may not be performed by that employee category

Version November 2015

<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
Instruments	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Patient	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Personnel	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Proper disposal of surgical waste	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>ASSIST WITH ANESTHESIA UNDER SUPERVISION</b>				
Calculate and administer pre-anesthetic medications as prescribed by the veterinarian	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Induce and maintain general anesthesia (considering species variations) using the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IV anesthetics</li> <li>• Inhalant anesthetics</li> <li>• Induction</li> <li>• Endotracheal intubation</li> <li>• Properly operate anesthetic machines</li> <li>• In-and out-of-the circle vaporizers</li> <li>• Re-breathing and non-breathing Systems</li> <li>• Induction chambers</li> </ul>	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Calculate and administer injectable analgesics/ anesthetics as prescribed by the veterinarian	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Monitor the anaesthetized patient <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use esophageal stethoscope</li> <li>• Recognize abnormal EKG and audible sounds</li> <li>• Monitor signs of stages &amp; planes of anesthesia</li> <li>• Use monitoring equipment (Doppler, pulse oximeter, etc.)</li> </ul>	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Upon specific instruction from a veterinarian who is both surgeon and anesthetist (no RVT or other veterinarian on premises): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adjust oxygen or anesthetic gas level</li> <li>• adjust monitoring equipment</li> <li>• record monitoring data</li> <li>• adjust fluid rate</li> </ul>	Immediate	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Recognize anesthetic emergencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resuscitate with anesthetic antagonists</li> <li>• Calculate and administer anesthetic antagonists</li> <li>• Defibrillator use</li> </ul>	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Care for anesthetic machines	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect

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<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
Properly scavenge waste anesthetic gas to protect staff	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform CPR	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Monitor anesthetic recovery, provide intensive postoperative care, and pain management	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>LOCAL ANESTHESIA</b>				
Common regional blocks – companion animals	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Common regional blocks – large animals	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Epidural anesthesia – companion animals	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Epidural anesthesia – bovine animals	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Peripheral nerve stimulation: use & assessment	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
<b>SMALL ANIMAL REHABILITATION</b>				
Perform technical tasks related to animal rehabilitation therapy	N/A	N/A	Indirect	Indirect
Perform therapeutic class 3 and 4b laser treatments	N/A	N/A	Direct	Direct
<b>LARGE AND SMALL ANIMAL NURSING</b>				
Perform venipuncture for treatment or blood sampling including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cephalic (dog, cat)</li> <li>• Jugular (dog, cat, horse, ruminant)</li> <li>• Saphenous (dog)</li> <li>• Sublingual (dog)</li> <li>• Ear (swine)</li> <li>• Coccygeal (cow)</li> <li>• Anterior vena cava (pig)</li> <li>• Femoral (cat)</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Administer parenteral injections including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subcutaneous</li> <li>• Intramuscular</li> <li>• Intradermal</li> <li>• Intraperitoneal</li> <li>• Intravenous</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Administer biological (including rabies) for domestic	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Administer biologicals to livestock	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect

\*Any task marked N/A may not be performed by that employee category

Version November 2015

<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
Place intravenous catheters including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cephalic vein (small animals)</li> <li>• Saphenous vein (dog)</li> <li>• Jugular vein</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Administer and maintain fluid therapy (maintain catheter placement, determine & maintain correct flow rate)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Medicate orally by means of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dosage in food or water</li> <li>• balling gun (ruminant)</li> <li>• dose syringe (ruminant)</li> <li>• gastric intubation (small animal)</li> <li>• hand pilling (dog, cat)</li> <li>• gastric lavage (dog)</li> <li>• dose syringe (horse, pig)</li> <li>• oral speculum &amp; stomach tube (ruminant)</li> <li>• nasogastric intubation (small animal)</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Care of bandages and splints	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Apply and remove bandages and splints	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Remove sutures or staples	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform therapeutic bathing, basic grooming, and dipping of small animals	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Provide routine record-keeping, husbandry, and observation of hospitalized patients	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Provide care and maintenance of equipment	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Feed routine and prescription diets to all animals	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Clean & disinfect cages, kennels and stalls	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Trim nails on companion animals (dog, cat and birds)	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Apply non-therapeutic equine leg & tail wraps	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Express canine and feline anal sacs	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Clean and medicate ears (dog and cat)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Administer enemas	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform thoracocentesis	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Other lines including intraosseous, arterial, central line, nasogastric tube	N/A	N/A	Direct	Direct
Collect urine sample: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• catheterize dogs, cats and large animals</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect

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<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>maintain urinary catheter</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>collect voided urine sample</li> </ul>	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>perform cystocentesis (small animal)</li> </ul>	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Indirect
Collect and examine skin scrapings	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Apply established Emergency Protocols:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain emergency medical supplies</li> </ul>	Direct	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use resuscitation bag (e.g. Ambu-bag)</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply emergency splints and bandages</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Eyes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply topical medication to eye</li> <li>Perform fluorescein staining and Schirmer tear test</li> <li>Perform ocular tonometry</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Apply microchip and tattoo identification	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Administer post-operative care including hydrotherapy, orthopedic, and neurological care	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Assist with artificial insemination	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Clean sheath (horse)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Remove casts	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Provide care for recumbent patient	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Maintain chest, tracheotomy, pharyngostomy Tubes	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Administer intra mammary treatment (mastitis therapy only)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Collect, cross-match and give blood transfusion	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Provide medical nursing care to newborns	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Clean up and prep wounds or abscesses	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Prepare mare for vaginal examination & cervical culture	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Trim hooves on ruminants and horses	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
<b>DENTISTRY – COMPANION ANIMAL DENTAL PROPHYLAXIS</b>				

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<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
Removal of plaque and calculus and other non-surgical procedures that do not result in altering the shape, structure positional location of teeth in the dental arch	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Probe measure, and chart pockets with a periodontal probe	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Grade Periodontal Disease	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Complete a dental chart	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Hand scaling using appropriate curettes and scalers	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Subgingival curettage	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Perform appropriate cleaning procedure for pockets less than 6 mm - closed root planingSubgingival curettage	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Flush pockets in the gingiva (less than 6 mm)	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Evaluate dental radiographs for diagnostic quality	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Perform dental anesthesia blocks - mental block - maxillary block - inferior alveolar (mandibular) block	N/A	N/A	Direct	Direct
Application of perioceuticals	N/A	N/A	Immediate	Direct
<b>DENTISTRY – EQUINE</b>				
Flotation or dressing of equine teeth (equine dentistry)	N/A	N/A	Direct	Direct
<b>RADIOLOGY AND ULTRASOUND IMAGING</b>				
Implement and follow recommended radiation safety measures	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Prepare and use radiographic technique charts	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Take diagnostic radiographs:				
• Use stationary and/or portable x-ray machine	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
• Use dental x-ray equipment	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
• Assist in positioning patients	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
• Position patients	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect

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<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow accepted guidelines for positioning dogs for hip dysplasia evaluations</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain quality control</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform various contrast media studies (including GI series, pneumocystogram, intravenous urogram)</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>Process diagnostic radiographs:</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mix and maintain manual developing chemicals</li> </ul>	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Automatic hand and digital processing of exposed film</li> </ul>	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Label, file &amp; store film</li> </ul>	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete radiographic logs, reports, files and records.</li> </ul>	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital image management – filing, storage, retrieval and transmission</li> </ul>	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>Maintain imaging equipment:</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean screens</li> </ul>	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognize faulty equipment operation</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain stationary and/or portable x-ray machine</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain ultrasound equipment</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain endoscopic equipment</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain dental x-ray equipment</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain and use therapeutic laser equipment</li> </ul>	N/A	Immediate	Indirect	Indirect
<b>PERFORM THE TASKS OF THE RADIATION QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER</b>				
Ensure that the equipment is maintained and functioning properly	N/A	N/A	Indirect	Indirect
Ensure the equipment is used correctly by competent personnel	N/A	N/A	Indirect	Indirect
Keep records of radiation surveys	N/A	N/A	Indirect	Indirect
Keep records of equipment tests & procedures	N/A	N/A	Indirect	Indirect
Maintain personnel monitoring program	N/A	N/A	Indirect	Indirect
<b>LABORATORY PROCEDURES</b>				

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<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
Properly clean, maintain and stock laboratory area	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Prepare samples for analyses and submission	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Package laboratory samples for shipment	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Maintain laboratory equipment	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Perform Laboratory Equipment Quality Assurance	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Routine start up and shut down of laboratory equipment	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Perform quality control procedures	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Urinalysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine physical properties (e.g. colour, clarity, specific gravity)</li> <li>• Test chemical properties using dipstick &amp; tablet tests</li> <li>• Examine and identify sediment</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>HEMATOLOGIC EVALUATIONS</b>				
Perform CBC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Haemoglobin</li> <li>• Hematocrit</li> <li>• Total protein (refractometer)</li> <li>• White cell count</li> <li>• Red cell count (PCV or electronic cell counter)</li> <li>• Microscopic examination of blood films: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. prepare blood film and stain</li> <li>2. perform leukocyte differential: normal vs. abnormal</li> <li>3. perform erythrocyte morphologic evaluation, normal vs. abnormal</li> <li>4. estimate platelet count</li> <li>5. calculate absolute values</li> <li>6. perform white blood cell correction for nucleated red cells</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform reticulocyte count	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform platelet count (automated cell counter)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Calculate haematologic indices	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect

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<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
Identify blood parasites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dirofilaria sp/Dipetalonema sp – direct, Knots, filter, antigen kit</li> <li>• Haemobartonella sp</li> </ul>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform blood chemistry tests (BUN, glucose, common enzymes)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Collect and prepare serum sample and perform serologic tests (ELIZA, slide/card agglutinations, snap tests, etc)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>PERFORM PARASITOLOGIC PROCEDURES</b>				
Collect voided fecal sample	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect	Indirect
Test for external parasites <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare sample</li> <li>2. Identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fleas</li> <li>- Flies</li> <li>- Lice</li> <li>- Mites</li> <li>- Ticks</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Test for internal parasites <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare solutions &amp; perform faecal flotations</li> <li>2. Perform faecal sedimentation</li> <li>3. Perform direct smears</li> <li>4. Scotch tape retrieval of pinworm ova</li> <li>5. Baermann tests</li> </ol>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Identify common adult parasites, their ova and apply knowledge of common parasite life cycles <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nematodes</li> <li>2. Trematode</li> <li>3. Cestodes</li> <li>4. Protozoa</li> </ol>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform coprologic tests	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>PERFORM MICROBIOLOGIC PROCEDURES</b>				
Collect representative samples	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform bacteriologic procedures <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Culture bacteria &amp; perform sensitivity test</li> <li>2. Identify common animal pathogens</li> </ol>	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Culture and identify common dermatophytes	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Collect milk samples & conduct mastitis testing, e.g. CMT, bacterial culture	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect

\*Any task marked N/A may not be performed by that employee category

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<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
<b>PERFORM CYTOLOGIC PROCEDURES</b>				
Collect, prepare and evaluate canine vaginal smears	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Assist in collecting, preparing and appropriately evaluating transudate, exudates & cytologic specimens (joint, cerebrospinal, airway and body cavity)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform fine needle tissue aspirates and Impression smears	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Prepare and stain bone marrow specimens	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Evaluate semen smears	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>BREEDING SOUNDNESS EVALUATION</b>				
Data collection during the physical examination portion of a breeding soundness examination of a bull, such as scrotal circumference, rectal temperature, heart and respiratory rate	N/A	Direct	Direct	Direct
Electrostimulation and semen collection during a breeding soundness examination of a bull	N/A	Direct	Direct	Direct
Routine microscopic examination and other laboratory tests on samples collected during a breeding soundness examination of a bull	N/A	Direct	Direct	Indirect
Explain timing and types of pregnancy testing	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Assist with artificial insemination (mare and cow)	N/A	Direct	Direct	Direct
Semen Collection of Stallion	N/A	Direct	Direct	Indirect
Routine microscopic examination and laboratory procedures in processing stallion semen	N/A	Direct	Direct	Indirect
<b>NECROPSY PROCEDURES</b>				
Perform carcass prosection	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Collect samples	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Store and ship samples according to laboratory protocols	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
<b>EUTHANASIA AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES</b>				
Handle disposal of dead animals	Immediate	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform euthanasia procedures	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect

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<b>TASK or delegated duty</b>	<b>Unregistered Auxiliary</b>	<b>Entry-Level RVT</b>	<b>Experienced RVT</b>	<b>Advanced Trained RVT</b>
<b>LABORATORY ANIMAL/EXOTIC PET PROCEDURES</b>				
<b>Rodents, Rabbits, Avian, Exotic &amp; Fish</b>				
Recognize and restrain	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Determine sex	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform and/or supervise basic care procedures, e.g. feeding, watering, identification and handling	Direct	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Administer drugs or medications, using appropriate sites and routes	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Collect blood samples	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform oral dosing	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Explain common disease signs	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
File or trim teeth of rabbits & guinea pigs	N/A	Immediate	Direct	Direct
Clean & medicate ear (rabbit)	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform a physical examination	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect
Perform anaesthetic and recovery procedures	N/A	Direct	Direct	Direct
Collect appropriate body tissues or fluids from live animals and perform laboratory procedures	N/A	Direct	Indirect	Indirect

\*Any task marked N/A may not be performed by that employee category

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ALBERTA  
SKILLED TRADES AND PROFESSIONS

*Deputy Premier  
Office of the Minister  
MLA, Edmonton - South West*

AR 318

MAR 14 2023

Mr. Sebastien Dutrisac  
Chair, Provincial ASB Committee  
c/o Mr. Stephen Bevans  
Secretary, Provincial ASB Committee  
Box 580  
Cardston AB T0K 0K0

Dear Mr. Dutrisac:

The Honourable Brian Jean, Minister of Jobs, Economy and Northern Development, forwarded a copy of your February 2, 2023 letter regarding the 2023 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Resolutions. As Minister of Skilled Trades and Professions responsible for the *Veterinary Profession Act*, I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

The Alberta government is aware of the severe shortage of veterinarians across all veterinary practice types in Alberta. Recognizing the particularly acute scarcity of veterinarians in rural Alberta, we have been working closely with the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA) to address this critical issue.

In 2021, the ABVMA and the Alberta Veterinary Technologist Medical Association (ABVTA) collaborated with the Government of Alberta to conduct a workforce study to gain a comprehensive understanding of key human resource issues facing the veterinary profession in Alberta. As a result of the study, the ABVMA established two industry-focused working groups to explore possible actions. One of the working groups is on domestic education of veterinary professionals in western Canada and the other is on utilization and retention of veterinarians and veterinary technologists. Both the ABVMA and the ABVTA are optimistic that through working with stakeholders, educational institutions, and the Alberta government, the issue will be resolved.

The ABVMA has also recently completed a study, namely the Economic Impact Assessment of the Veterinary Medical Sector in Alberta, to document the economic benefits of veterinary medicine to the province of Alberta. The study addresses the impact of the veterinary medical sector on rural communities and has become a useful tool in supporting the ABVMA and the veterinary profession's efforts to address the critical workforce shortage issues.

As part of the Alberta Recovery Plan and under the Alberta Advantage Immigration Strategy, the Alberta government has recently developed new entrepreneur immigration streams for the Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program to help bring in skilled economic immigrants, including veterinarians, to support the province's workforce. There are two streams that may contribute to addressing the

Mr. Sebastien Dutrisac

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labour shortage in rural Alberta. The Rural Renewal Stream supports attraction and retention of immigrants through a community-driven approach responsive to local economic development needs in rural Alberta communities, and the Rural Entrepreneur Stream attracts and encourages qualified and capable immigrant entrepreneurs to start new or buy existing businesses, conduct the day-to-day operations, and live-in rural communities to support economic growth in rural Alberta.

As you know, the Alberta government has also recently provided additional funding to the University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM). This money will be used to increase programming for veterinary studies and allow the UCVM to double its yearly enrolment of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine students from 50 to 100 by 2025.

Regarding your suggestion to establish a mid-level veterinary professional designation to address the rural veterinary shortage and provide mid-level supportive care to Alberta livestock producers, my department will confer with the ABVMA to discuss the proposal. To implement another category of veterinarian, the ABVMA will require member approval, a formal proposal for changes to the *Veterinary Professional Act*, and significant consultations with stakeholders, educational institutions, and the public. While not a fast solution to the situation, it may fit into the range of responses that will work together to help address the shortage.

Like your committee, the Government of Alberta recognizes the important role of veterinarians in this province and the critical need to address the labour shortage in this profession. Thank you for writing and bringing this proposal to my attention.

Yours very truly,



Honourable Kaycee Madu, KC, ECA  
Deputy Premier and Minister of Skilled Trades and Professions

cc: Honourable Brian Jean, KC, ECA  
Minister of Jobs, Economy and Northern Development



**From:** [ASB Committee](#)  
**To:** [Sheila Kaus](#); [Christi Friesen](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution 1-23, 2-23 Response  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:21:33 AM  
**Attachments:** [1,2-23 Mar 14 Skilled Trades and Prof GOA RESPONSE.pdf](#)

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Sheila and Christi,

We have received a response from Minister Kaycee Mandu who is the Minister of Skilled Trades and Professions, and is the Deputy Premier. I know that resolution 2-23 is not the MD of Greenview's, but Minister Brian Jean forwarded resolution 1-23 to Minister Kaycee Mandu for response, and he responded to both in the same letter.

Both responses are now posted the [2023 Resolutions](#) page on our website. Please review the resolution response with your ASBs and provide any further feedback/comments to your regional Rep Christi Friesen.

Details of the deadlines and process for resolutions on the [Resolution Rules of Procedure](#) page on the website for your reference. If you would like to start filling out the grading sheets as the resolutions come in, you can download the sheets on the 2023 Resolutions page.

The ASBPC will meet by April 15 to discuss the responses received and give them initial grades. At this time your ASBPC rep will share any comments your ASB has on the resolution, and follow up with the Minister for more information if needed.

Final grades are assigned after all the grading sheets from the ASBs are received by June 30.

I have posted the response on the website "[2023 Resolutions](#)" and attached a pdf copy for your reference. Please discuss and send feedback though Christi.

--

Linda Hunt  
Executive Assistant  
Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee  
PH: 780-678-5984

Website: [www.agriculturalserviceboards.com](http://www.agriculturalserviceboards.com)





# REQUEST FOR DECISION

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SUBJECT:	<b>Large Animal Veterinary Practice Supports</b>		
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
MEETING DATE:	April 4, 2023	CAO:	MANAGER: SK
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	DIR:	PRESENTER: SK
STRATEGIC PLAN:	Governance	LEG:	

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## RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

**Provincial** – N/A

**Council Bylaw/Policy** – N/A

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## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

**MOTION 1: That the Agricultural Service Board accept the report on Large Animal Veterinary Practice Supports for information, as presented.**

**MOTION 2: That the Agricultural Service Board request Administration make arrangements to meet with other interested municipalities to inform a regional Veterinary Supports program, while Administration draft a program for the Agricultural Service Boards consideration based on the Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative with options detailing a potential Greenview only initiative.**

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## BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Greenview has been committed to ensuring local livestock producers have access to large animal veterinary services since 2008 with the establishment and outfitting of the Greenview Veterinary Clinic and as an active member of Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI).

In August of 2022, the Agricultural Service Board had a delegation from Emerson Trail Veterinary Services. This veterinary service is in the process of establishing a large animal only veterinary clinic east of Grande Prairie, within proximity of Grovedale farms and ranches. The veterinary service was looking for assistance in the establishment of the clinic in the form of sponsorship of handling or technical equipment purchase. In response to the delegation, the Agricultural Service Board made the following motion:

**MOTION: That the Agricultural Service Board recommend Council to direct Administration to explore potential equipment cost recovery options for large animal veterinary service providers, that support MD of Greenview livestock producers.**

Prior to this motion by the Board, Council had requested a fair market valuation be developed for the Greenview Veterinary Clinic. With this valuation's presentation to Council, Administration recommended entering negotiations with the current lease for sale of the clinic and that Council direct administration to generate a report on the potential uses of the resultant fund to further support increasing large animal veterinary practices within Greenview for Councils consideration.

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, Council made the following Motion:

**MOTION:** that Council direct Administration to prepare a report on the potential to support increasing the primary large animal focused veterinary practices that provide services within the region to Greenview Producers.

Administration performed research as to what programs have been implemented within Alberta at a municipal level or provincially. This research was enriched by widening the scope to include programs active in other jurisdictions within Canada.

Within Alberta at the provincial level, the Return of Service Bursary from the Northern Alberta Development Council provides \$6,000 dollars over two years, for a total of \$12,000 to those in high demand fields, such as Veterinarians, provided they move to and practice in Northern Alberta.

Municipally, there are two programs currently active within the Peace Region of Alberta. Saddle Hills County has implemented a Veterinary Medicine Bursary Program. The bursary is open to eligible local students and provides a matching grant to the Northern Alberta Development Councils Return of Service \$6,000 bursary, for a total of \$12,000 in support. From the website, "The Veterinary Medicine Bursary Program is offered to eligible students enrolled in a recognized post-secondary veterinary program who primarily reside in the Central Peace Region. Interested students should complete a Veterinary Medicine Bursary Application before May 1 of the current year."

Similarly, Big Lakes County initiated a bursary, but instead of focusing on students, chose to focus on practicing veterinarians, "Big Lakes County is offering a practicing veterinarian a \$20,000 annual bursary for every year of employment in the County where practice achieves 75% provision-of-service to large animal clients. Students can also apply for \$20,000 per academic year with a year-for-year return to service agreement to practice in Big Lakes County."

The Saskatchewan government has set up a loan forgiveness program aimed at veterinarian and veterinary technicians providing services to livestock producers. The program forgives \$4,000 in loans for every year of services provided to a maximum of \$20,000. In addition to the loan forgiveness, Saskatchewan Agriculture and the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association is providing mentorship opportunities to 10 (ten) first or second year Western College of Veterinary Medicine students. The program provides summer experience in rural veterinary practices, exposing students to the aspects of livestock and agri-food based veterinary medicine. During the 14-week placement the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association pays participating practices \$6,500. These funds are meant to pay the wages of the student. The practice must provide a minimum of \$3,000 in financial support with a limit of \$1,500 being in-kind.

Manitoba has the Veterinary Service District program, overseen by the Veterinary Service Commission. The programs aim was to build a veterinary clinic in each district to ensure livestock producers had access to veterinary care. There are 27 districts throughout Manitoba, with the province supplying \$479,000 annually to maintain and operate the buildings. The per clinic provincial maximum of the program is \$19,000 which is matched by the municipality. Despite this program, a study conducted by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association found that Manitoba has the fewest number of veterinarians per capita of any western province.

Prior to the Government of Alberta ceasing support of Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) the program functioned similarly to Manitoba's VSD program.

Ontario has a suite of supports in place for large animal veterinarians that are part of their Canadian Agricultural Partnership program with the federal government. The Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative is a cost-sharing program that aims to increase access options for veterinary care in remote and rural locations in Ontario to better support animal health, the livestock agri-food sector and the strength of the province's food supply.

#### **"Eligible Projects and Activities**

Eligible Projects include those that help support activities that will increase delivery options of veterinary care to support food animal health under the following categories.

- Telemedicine Diagnostic: support for telemedicine and/or diagnostic (i.e. mobile/cellular and video/camera and monitor solutions; veterinary hematology analyzers; vehicle modifications)
- Handling Equipment: support for portable large animal handling equipment such as head gates and squeeze chutes, associated vehicle modifications
- Education/Training: support for education and training on new equipment or techniques

#### **Priorities**

- Projects that enhance veterinary services in an Underserved Area; and
- Projects that address challenges associated with the long distance between farms and veterinary clinics."

A total of \$90,000 is available per applicant. The first \$45,000 is a cost-share set to 50% of eligible costs. Additional cost-share is at 35% of eligible costs.

Of the programs researched, the Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative appears to be the most likely to assist large animal veterinarians to expand or establish services within Greenview or the wider region. Council may wish to explore the potential of offering such a program at a regional level, in partnership with the Peace Region municipalities. Preliminary inquiries with administrative colleagues to gauge potential interest in such an initiative have been made. One Agricultural Service Board is in favour of a potential initiative and the matter will be presented to an additional agricultural service board for consideration in March.

Administration forwarded the Ontario program on to Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation administration for potential inclusion in the new federal/provincial agricultural funding framework as Alberta specific programming for the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) has not been finalized. Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation stated that they find this program to fit within the goals of the funding and that there could be veterinary specific funding available within the first year or two of the SCAP program launch.

While the model followed to establish the Greenview Veterinary Clinic was successful, the clinic results in an annual operating expenditure of \$40,000 related to carrying costs.

Exploring programming that provides business supports for all large animal veterinary clinics to increase telemedicine options, expand on the skillsets of current staff and upgrade handling equipment may be a competitive edge for proprietors to consider clinic establishment within Greenview.

This report was presented to Council on March 14<sup>th</sup> with the following motion being made:

Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY

That Council direct Administration to draft a program for Council consideration based on the Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative with options detailing a potential Greenview only initiative as well as a Peace Region based initiative.

Administration approached other Peace region municipalities with potential collaboration. Saddle Hills County has expressed interest in meeting with other Agricultural Service Boards to discuss how municipalities can work together to provide to veterinary businesses. Northern Sunrise County is interested in discussing at an administrative level, as is the County of Grande Prairie.

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**BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. The benefit of the recommended action is that the Board will be informed as to programs currently in place in other jurisdictions to retain, attract and support large animal veterinarians.

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**DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended action.

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**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

**Alternative #1:** The Agricultural Service Board may choose to limit the action to a Greenview only initiative, however, Administration provides the intermunicipal option in support of Greenview's Strategic Plan: **Governance #3- Improve intermunicipal government relations: Host regular meetings with neighbours, partners and indigenous communities by participating, engaging and/or leading in the creation of joint planning.**

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**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:**

Should the Agricultural Service Board agree with the recommended action, Administration will move forward with coordinating a meeting. With administrative and Agricultural Service Board representation.

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**STAFFING IMPLICATION:**

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

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**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:**

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

**INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT**

Inform

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL**

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

**PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC**

Inform - We will keep you informed.

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**FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:**

There are no recommended actions.

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**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- Easing Rural Veterinary Shortage
- Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative
- Mentorship Program Guide Forms 2023
- Practicing Veterinary Medicine in Rural Manitoba (Details of VSD Program)
- MVMA Advisory Note 2022



# Easing rural veterinary shortage goal of Manitoba govt. funding

[Print full article](#) 

## The province is increasing its annual contribution to WCVM, raising the number of Manitoba intake students from 15 to 20

November 3, 2022

Attracting, training, and retaining veterinarians to support commercial agriculture in rural Canada is the goal of newly developed criteria in Manitoba.

As part of its strategy to build the province's animal healthcare capacity, the **Manitoba government** has expanded its inter-provincial agreement with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) at the University of Saskatchewan to provide increased annual funding for the acceptance of Manitoba students.

"Our government has invested in this new strategy to address the critical shortage of veterinarians providing care for commercial livestock and poultry operations in rural Manitoba," says the province's agriculture minister, Derek Johnson. "The agricultural sector is vital to our provincial economy, and we are committed to providing support to address the sector's needs."



Currently, Manitoba receives 15 guaranteed subsidized seats at the Saskatoon-based WCVM for new entrants annually.

The province will increase its funding contribution to the college by \$539,200 for the 2023-24 academic year to a total of \$7,009,600, raising the number of Manitoba intake students from 15 to 20. This gradually increasing funding commitment will bring Manitoba student intake to 20 seats every year until it supports 80 students, annually, through the four-year program.

Given the particular need for veterinarians to support commercial livestock and poultry operations in rural Manitoba and for improved biosecurity, the five new intake seats will be targeted for an expansion of veterinary care for the agricultural sector.

Specifically, selected students will be expected to have:

- an expressed desire to pursue veterinary practices in commercial agriculture in rural Manitoba;
- a solid academic foundation through achievement in a university-level animal science program; and
- practical knowledge and experience in the livestock or poultry industries, gained through significant experience prior to enrolment.

"This is an important step toward addressing the shortage of veterinarians in rural Manitoba," says Manitoba Beef Producers president, Tyler Fulton. "We appreciate the focus on recruiting students who have a direct interest and first-hand experience in working with animals, and who have been raised in a rural environment."

"Our government will collaborate with stakeholders and WCVM in upcoming years to ensure the objectives of this targeted approach are met," Johnson adds. "**Manitoba Agriculture** will also work with educational institutions, agricultural organizations, and other stakeholders to ensure information on the new strategy is shared widely."

#CANADIAN COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE #CANADIAN VETERINARY SHORTAGE #CHICKENS #COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE  
 #LARGE ANIMAL VETERINARIANS #MANITOBA #MANITOBA GOVERNMENT #POULTRY #RURAL VETERINARIANS #UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
 #WCVM #WESTERN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

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## This page is part of a migration project

We're moving content over from an older government website. We'll align this page with the ontario.ca style guide (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarioca-style-guide>) in future updates.

# Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative guidelines

Learn how your veterinary practice can get funding to better serve livestock farmers in rural and underserviced areas.

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## Overview

The Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative is a cost-share initiative that will increase access options for veterinary care, especially in rural and northern Ontario, to better support animal health, the livestock agri-food sector and the strength of the province's food supply.

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## Definitions

**"Applicant"** means an Ontario-based food animal veterinary practice and/or mixed veterinary animal practice that includes food animals, who has submitted an application for cost-share funding through the Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative.

**"Arm's Length"** means an entity is considered Arm's Length if they are not related, not affiliated persons, or otherwise controlled by another member or members. Refer

to Section 251 of the Income Tax Act (Canada) for the detailed statutory provision for determining Arm's Length relationships.

**"Canadian Agricultural Partnership"** or "Partnership" means the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (the Partnership) is a five-year federal-provincial-territorial initiative to strengthen the agriculture, agri-food and agri-products sectors, and increase their competitiveness, prosperity and sustainability.

**"Capital Cost"** includes cost of machinery, equipment, software development/purchase and installation; renovations; site improvements; leasehold improvements; building improvements and construction.

**"Claim"** means a report submitted by the Applicant to the Agricultural Adaptation Council to provide the Agricultural Adaptation Council with information on which to base a reimbursement payment. Claims must meet all of the requirements stated in the Funding Agreement between the Agricultural Adaptation Council and the Applicant for the project.

**"Funding Agreement"** mean a legal agreement that the Applicant must enter into with the Agricultural Adaptation Council if the project is approved. The legal agreement contains the terms and conditions that the Applicant must follow to receive cost-share funding.

**"Guidelines"** means this document, as it may be amended from time to time.

**"Incurred Costs"** means a cost for which an Applicant has become liable to pay.

**"Minister's Order"** means the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Strategic Initiative Theme Program Minister's Order, Minister's Order number 0005/2018, as amended.

**"Requirements Of Law"** means all applicable Requirements of Law, as may be set out in statutes, regulations, by-laws, codes, rules, ordinances, official plans, approvals, permits, licenses, authorizations, decrees, injunctions, orders and declarations, or any other similar Requirement of Law.

**"Underserviced Area"** means all areas in the province of Ontario north of and including the County of Renfrew, the County of Haliburton, the Township of Addington

Highlands, the Township of Carlow/Mayo, the Township of Limerick, the Township of Wollaston, the Township of

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## **Purpose of the Initiative**

Some Ontario livestock farmers, in particular those in rural and northern Ontario, are experiencing shortages of access to veterinary services, putting strain on veterinarians and limiting growth opportunities for livestock farmers. The Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative (the Initiative) is aimed at supporting innovative approaches to increase delivery options of veterinary care to livestock farmers, particularly in Underserved Areas to support animal health, the livestock agri-food sector and the strength of our food supply. Funding through this Initiative will help veterinary care be delivered in ways that address several challenges, including the long distance between many farmers and veterinary clinics, and the shortage of large animal veterinarians working in rural and remote parts of the province.

The Canadian Agricultural Partnership (the Partnership) is a five-year federal-provincial-territorial initiative to strengthen the agriculture, agri-food, and agri-based products sector and increase its competitiveness, prosperity and sustainability. The Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative is funded through The Partnership. The Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC) is delivering the Partnership cost-share funding through this Initiative.

## **Target Audience**

The Applicant must be an Ontario-based, food animal veterinary practice and/or mixed veterinary animal practice that includes food animals.

Priority will be given to food animal veterinary practices that are actively serving an Underserved Area. A veterinary practice does not need to be physically located in an Underserved Area in Ontario, but has to attest that they actively serve food animal clients in an Underserved Area and identify the area.

Review of applications from veterinary practices not actively serving an Underserved Area will only occur at the end of the intake period. See How is an application assessed? for further information.

## Eligible Projects and Activities

Eligible Projects include those that help support activities that will increase delivery options of veterinary care to support food animal health under the following categories.

- **Telemedicine Diagnostic:** support for telemedicine and/or diagnostic (i.e. mobile/cellular and video/camera and monitor solutions; veterinary hematology analyzers; vehicle modifications)
- **Handling Equipment:** support for portable large animal handling equipment such as head gates and squeeze chutes, associated vehicle modifications
- **Education/Training:** support for education and training on new equipment or techniques

## Priorities

- Projects that enhance veterinary services in an Underserved Area; and
- Projects that address challenges associated with the long distance between farms and veterinary clinics.

## Eligible Costs

Eligible costs are those costs that are directly necessary to carry out the project, reasonable in nature, and incremental as well as incurred and paid by the Applicant. For costs to be considered eligible, they must be incurred and paid no earlier than January 19, 2022 and no later than September 30, 2022.

**Note:** costs incurred must reflect when the goods and services are expected to be received, regardless of when payments are made. When purchasing goods or services, the Applicant must follow a process that is transparent, fair and promotes the best value for the money expended and at competitive prices that are no greater than fair market value after deducting trade discounts and/or any other discounts available to the Applicant; and must comply with all Requirements of Law applicable to how the Applicant acquires goods, services or both.

All suppliers from which goods or services are purchased must be at Arm's Length from the Applicant, meaning not related to the Applicant, not affiliated with the Applicant, or controlled in any way by the Applicant. If you have any questions about



whether a supplier meets this requirement, please contact the AAC at [info@adaptcouncil.org](mailto:info@adaptcouncil.org) (mailto:info@adaptcouncil.org) .

Eligible costs may include the following within any limits given elsewhere in this guide:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Cost Examples</b>	<b>Total Eligible Costs for Cost-Share</b>
Telemedicine/ Diagnostic Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mobile/cellular and video/camera and monitor solutions; veterinary hematology analyzers; vehicle modifications</li> </ul>	up to \$50,000
Handling Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>portable large animal handling equipment such as head gates and squeeze chutes, associated vehicle modification</li> </ul>	up to \$30,000
Education/Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>education and training on new equipment or techniques and related travel, as outlined in Appendix A Travel Guidelines</li> </ul>	up to \$10,000
<b>Maximum total</b>	-	<b>up to</b>

**eligible costs****\$90,000****Cost-Share Funding****Initial Cost-Share Funding**

An Applicant may access cost-share funding according to whether they serve food animal clients in Underserved Areas. The initial cost-share funding assistance available through the Initiative is:

<b>Applicant type</b>	<b>Funding Level</b>	<b>Maximum cost-share funding across all categories</b>	<b>Maximum cost-share funding per category</b>
Actively serving clients in an Underserved Area	<b>50 per cent</b> of total eligible costs	<b>\$45,000</b>	Telemedicine/ Diagnostic Equipment - <b>\$25,000</b> Handling Equipment - <b>\$15,000</b> Education/Training - <b>\$5,000</b>
Actively serving clients in an Underserved Area	<b>35 per cent</b> of total eligible costs	<b>\$31,500</b>	Telemedicine/ Diagnostic Equipment - <b>\$17,500</b> Handling Equipment - <b>\$10,500</b> Education/Training - <b>\$3,500</b>

### Additional Cost-Share Funding

In addition to the funding outlined above, an Applicant actively serving clients in an Underserviced Area, may also include a request for **additional cost-share funding** in their application. Funding requests will be reviewed, if there are funds remaining at the close of the intake

Applicant type	Funding Level	Maximum cost-share funding across all categories	Maximum cost-share funding per category
Actively serving clients in an Underserviced Area	<b>50 per cent</b> of total eligible costs	<b>\$40,000</b>	Telemedicine/ Diagnostic Equipment - <b>\$25,000</b> Handling Equipment - <b>\$15,000</b>
-	-	<b>*\$5,000</b>	Education/Training - <b>\$5,000*</b>

\*A total of \$5,000 in cost-share funding is available for the Education/Training category. If an Applicant has not requested the full \$5,000 in their initial request, they can request the balance in their additional cost-share funding request (i.e. an Applicant requesting \$3,000 in their initial request, can request up to \$2,000 in additional funding request).

See **How is an application assessed?** for further information.

### Ineligible Costs

Ineligible costs include costs identified as such in the applicable Category Description, and the following:

- Costs Incurred prior to January 19, 2022
- Costs Incurred after September 30, 2022
- Costs Incurred in preparing an application
- Costs Incurred for activities taking place outside of Ontario
- Any costs that are not specifically set out as an Eligible Cost in the section above
- Normal costs of establishing, expanding or operating a business or organization
- Normal costs of implementation of a facility expansion
- Goods or services provided by federal or provincial government departments or agencies
- Deposits (prepayments) for which goods or services are not yet fully received
- Costs for training and skills development projects that fulfill any academic requirements towards completion of a diploma or degree
- Mentoring and coaching, unless otherwise indicated in a Project Category
- Sponsorship of conferences and learning events or initiatives
- Honourariums
- Membership costs
- Any travel costs not specific to training on new equipment or techniques
- Consultant and other contractor expenses for any hospitality (e.g., provision of food or beverages at events), incidentals or food
- Hospitality (e.g., venue rental, food, beverages, AV, etc.)
- Purchase or lease of land, building or facilities
- Costs of vehicles, transportation equipment, mobile material handling equipment (powered or unpowered), and construction and agriculture machinery (e.g., farm equipment) not specified in Eligible Costs above
- Financing charges, loan and lease interest payments, bank fees and charges as well as debt restructuring or fundraising

- Gifts and incentives
  - Permits and approvals
  - Legal fees
  - Costs related to activities that directly influence or lobby any level of government
  - Costs of basic research
  - Taxes, including Harmonized Sales Tax
  - Costs for which the Applicant is eligible to receive a credit, rebate or refund; and
  - Any Capital Cost item that is funded by government sources at 75 per cent or more
- 

## Applying for Cost-share Funding

### What are the responsibilities of the Applicant?

Responsibilities of the Applicant include:

- being a food animal veterinary practice and/or mixed veterinary animal practice with an active practice status with the College of Veterinarians of Ontario and located in Ontario
- attest to actively serving food animal clients in an Underserved Area (if applicable)
- be the primary point of contact with the AAC, who will be administering the Initiative
- enter into a funding agreement with the AAC
- manage the project
- cash flow all eligible costs
- provide the required documentation to the AAC for reimbursement funding
- prepare progress and final reports
- receive a T4A for the total funds issued

## **What types of projects are ineligible?**

Projects that are not eligible under this Initiative include:

- activities that do not support food animal health
- promotion of Ontario products explicitly over those of another province or territory and/or inclusion of Ontario specific promotional campaigns or branding (including the use of the Foodland Ontario logo)
- those that involve directly influencing or lobbying any level of government
- normal operating costs associated with carrying out business or facility expansions, unless otherwise noted in the Eligible costs section
- having the sole purpose of coming into or maintaining compliance with Requirements of the Law that pertain to current operations
- those that are not in compliance with all applicable requirements of law, including environmental legislation and public health and safety requirements, by-laws, ordinances, approvals and permits
- activities that are already receiving 100 per cent in total funding assistance from all sources, including other government and non-government sources; or
- those that are located outside of Ontario

## **When may projects start and finish?**

A Project cannot start and costs cannot be incurred prior to January 19, 2022. Eligible costs must be incurred no later than September 30, 2022.

## **How is an application assessed?**

The Initiative will have a continuous intake running six weeks in length from February 15, 2022 to March 31, 2022.

All applications received will be evaluated according to the review phases outlined below on a first-come-first-serve basis, as long as funds remain available for the Initiative. Applications will not be considered if they do not meet eligibility criteria or if they are incomplete. Applications will be assigned to an AAC staff member who will follow-up on incomplete applications and may contact the Applicant to obtain additional information.



## Review Phases

1. Applications received from an Applicant, actively serving an Underserved Area, will be reviewed for eligibility and funding decisions communicated within fifteen business days of receipt of a complete application.
2. Applications received from an Applicant, not actively serving an Underserved Area, will be reviewed for eligibility and, if eligible, will be held in abeyance until the end of the intake period to determine available program funds. Within fifteen business days following the close of the intake period funding decisions will be communicated.
3. Additional cost-share funding requests received from an Applicant, actively serving an Underserved Area, will be reviewed for eligibility and, if eligible, will be held in abeyance until the end of the intake period to determine available program funds. Within fifteen business days following the close of the intake period, funding decisions will be communicated.

All complete applications will be evaluated based on the following:

- Is the Applicant eligible?
- Are the costs eligible and substantiated in the budget (e.g., quotes, cost breakdown, details on specific costs, etc.)?

## How Do I Apply?

There will be a continuous intake running for six weeks from February 15, 2022 to March 31, 2022. The Lead Entity can apply for the Initiative programming through the AAC, who will be administering the Initiative, by completing the application form and submitting it by the end of the intake.

The application forms are available on the AAC website. Detailed instructions for completing and submitting application forms are provided on the first page of the application form. It is critical that applicants follow these instructions to ensure their application is received and can be reviewed.

Complete applications must be submitted by email as a Word document to [info@adaptcouncil.org](mailto:info@adaptcouncil.org) (mailto:info@adaptcouncil.org). Any quotes, invoices, additional information, can be attached to the email. If you apply and do not receive

an acknowledgement email within two business days, please contact AAC at [info@adaptcouncil.org](mailto:info@adaptcouncil.org) (mailto:info@adaptcouncil.org) or call 519-822-7554.

### **How will I be notified of cost-share funding decisions?**

The Applicant will be notified by email once an application has been reviewed and a decision has been made. There are two possible outcomes:

- **Application is approved** - the Applicant will be contacted by AAC to inform them of the approval and will be required to enter into a funding agreement with the AAC and comply with its terms and conditions for the duration of the project. The Applicant will also receive confirmation of claim procedures and submission deadlines, and a final report that must be submitted at the completion of the project based on the dates specified.
  - **Application is declined** - the Applicant will be contacted by AAC and receive a brief explanation for the decision.
- 

## **Claiming Cost-share Funding for Approved Projects**

### **When is cost-share funding paid?**

Approved cost-share funding is paid after the Applicant has incurred and paid for the eligible expenses and has submitted a claim that meets all requirements and which has been approved by AAC. Each eligible cost is reimbursed at the approved cost-share funding percentage.

The Final Report submitted for the project must include a certification that the project has been completed within the project timelines stated in the Funding Agreement and the project must fulfil all other requirements stated in the Funding Agreement.

Claim forms and reporting templates will be available on the AAC website.

### **How is a Claim submitted?**

All projects must be completed no later than September 30, 2022. Final Claims and reporting should be submitted by the Applicant to AAC no later than October 17, 2022. AAC may request any additional information from the applicants that is

considered necessary (e.g. copies of any permits obtained by the applicant in conducting the project, photos, additional reporting, etc.).

### **What your Claim package must contain:**

- Completed claim form
- Proofs of payment
- Copies of all paid invoices
- Completed final report
- Photos required for any equipment purchased

### **Proof of payment must verify:**

- The Applicant paid for all expenses
- Who received payment?
- The amount of payment
- The date of payment

### **Proof of payment may be any one of the following:**

- Copy of front and back of cancelled cheque/proof of electronic funds transfer (EFT)
- Electronic image of processed cheque/EFT transaction
- Statement from banking institution indicating to whom the processed cheque was written, or electronic payment made, and for what amount
- Credit card or debit card receipt or statement clearly identifying amount and to whom the payment was made. Credit card or debit card numbers and other information, including costs that are unrelated to the project, should be blacked out

### **Can I stack cost-share funding for the same project?**

Applicants can only access one funding source under the Partnership for a single project. However, applicants may access other government funding as long as those

other programs also allow stacking. The maximum level of total assistance provided from all sources is 100 per cent of the total eligible costs. All funding for a project, including from additional sources, must be listed in the budget.

## **Applicant Insurance Requirements**

Applicants signing funding agreements with the AAC for their project are required to have comprehensive general liability insurance with coverage for at least \$2 million per occurrence. This insurance is required to be maintained throughout the term of the Funding Agreement.

---

## **Appendix A: Travel Guidelines**

### **Eligible Travel Costs**

Travel costs are only eligible if they are specific to traveled required for the purpose of training on new equipment, techniques, as outlined below.

### **Vehicle**

When road transportation is the most practical and economical way to travel, the order of preference is rental vehicle then personal vehicle, if it is more economical than a rental vehicle. Necessary and reasonable costs for parking, tolls for bridges, ferries and highways are eligible.

- Rental Vehicles:
  - Compact model, or its equivalent, is required. Exceptions to this are guided by the principle that the vehicle is the most economical and practical size, taking into account the business purpose, number of occupants and safety (including weather) considerations
  - Luxury and sports vehicles are prohibited
  - Gasoline charges are an eligible cost
- Personal Vehicles:
  - If using a personal vehicle, daily logs must be kept to track the project-related

business use, with distances calculated in kilometers (km)

- Mileage ranges will be applied for an individual, per project, per fiscal year
- The table below reflects the maximum reimbursement rates for personal vehicles driven in Ontario:

<b>Total km driven per fiscal year</b>	<b>Southern Ontario (\$ per km)</b>	<b>Northern Ontario (\$ per km)</b>
0 - 4000 km	0.40	0.41
4001 - 10, 700 km	0.35	0.36
10, 701 - 24, 000 km	0.29	0.30
More than 24, 000 km	0.24	0.25

### **Public Transit**

- Local public transportation including hotel/airport shuttles should be used wherever possible

### **Air and Rail Travel**

- Air and rail travel is permitted if it is the most practical and economical way to travel
- Economy (coach) class is the standard option for ticket purchase

### **Accommodations**

- Reimbursement will only be made for single accommodation in a standard room

## Appendix B: Application Declaration

In order to apply, the Applicant must agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Initiative.

The Applicant must be a legal entity that is eligible under the Initiative. The individual who signs the application form on behalf of the Applicant must be a person who is authorized by the Applicant to sign the form on behalf of the Applicant and to bind the Applicant to the contents therein. The Applicant is referred to as the applicant below. The Agricultural Adaptation Council is referred to as Ontario's program administrator or Canada below. This person is referred to as "you" below.

You must certify on the application that:

- You have read, understand, and agree to abide by all requirements of the Initiative, as set out in this Guidelines.
- All information submitted on the application is true and complete, to the best of your knowledge, belief and understanding.
- All sources of funding for the proposed project, other than the applicants', have been disclosed in this application, including sources and amounts from federal, provincial and municipal governments, and such funds do not, and will, not exceed 100 per cent of total eligible costs.
- The applicant does not currently owe any money to Ontario, or you have attached a description of the applicant's debt to Ontario to this application.
- You are not, nor is any officer, director or employee of the applicant (if any) a current or former federal public office holder or federal public servant, or, if you, or any officer, director or employee of the applicant (if any) are a current or former federal public officer holder or federal public servant, you or that officer, director or employee of the applicant (if any) are in compliance with the Conflict of Interest Act, the Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons, the Values and Ethics Code for the Public Sector, and the Policy on Conflict of Interest and Post-employment, as applicable.
- You are not, nor is any officer, director or employee of the applicant (if any), a member of the House of Commons or of the Senate, or if you, or any officer, director or employee of the applicant (if any) are, you or the officer, director or



employee of the applicant (if any) are permitted under the Parliament of Canada Act to receive funding from Canada under the this Initiative.

You must further certify on the Application, that the applicant:

- Shall retain all records relating to any payments made to you under this Initiative including, all invoices and proof of payment for at least seven (7) years from the date on which payment was received by the applicant.
- Shall consent to Canada, Ontario or Ontario's program administrator publishing information about the project/activities funded including the amount of funding the applicant has been approved to receive and/or has received under this Initiative, the nature and results of any project/activities funded, along with the applicant's name.

You must further acknowledge and accept that:

- Funding under this Initiative is a discretionary, non-entitlement program and the applicant is not entitled to funding merely as a consequence of submitting an application. Payment is subject to Ontario receiving all the necessary appropriations from the Ontario Legislature, Ontario receiving all the necessary monies from Canada, Ontario's program administrator receiving all the necessary appropriations from Ontario, the applicant and the applicant's project (including all activities) satisfying eligibility criteria, eligible expenses criteria, as well as the applicant's compliance with all terms and conditions of the Partnership.
- If it is determined the applicant has received a payment the applicant was not eligible to receive, through administrative error or otherwise, the applicant will repay any and all payments that the applicant was not eligible to receive as well as any surplus funding.
- Any payments made to the applicant may be subject to recovery or offset against the applicant's pre-existing debts to the Crown in Right of Ontario or Canada.
- Canada, Ontario or, Ontario's program administrator, including, their respective Ministers, directors, officers, agents, employees or representatives (as applicable) shall not be liable for any damage or loss whatsoever, or howsoever arising, including, damage or loss arising from any advice, opinions, representations, warranties or the provision of information under the Partnership.
- The information provided under this Initiative may be disclosed by Ontario or Ontario's program administrator on behalf of Ontario to verify compliance with

other provincial and federal funding initiatives administered by Ontario or another program administrator on behalf of Ontario or by Ontario in order to confirm the information provided, to verify eligibility and to ensure there is no duplication of funding.

- The information provided under this Initiative may, with the exception of the Social Insurance Number, be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Ontario), the Access to Information Act (Canada) or Privacy Act (Canada).

You must consent to the following on behalf of the applicant:

- To provide accurate, timely and full information, including supporting documentation, to the Ontario's program administrator and will notify the Ontario's program administrator immediately in the event there are any changes to information provided.
- To provide Canada, Ontario and Ontario's program administrator, as well as their authorized representatives, with any information or access to a person, place or thing within ten (10) business days of any request, field verification or audit.

## GUIDE FOR STUDENTS AND MENTORING PRACTICES

### Goals of the program:

To ensure adequate veterinary service is available in the future to serve Saskatchewan's expanding livestock production sector.

### Objective of the program:

To introduce ten (10) first and second year students at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine to ten (10) veterinary practices in Saskatchewan serving a high percentage of livestock clients. Preference will be given to Saskatchewan students and those who have not participated in the program in the previous year.

### Planned outcomes:

By providing first and second year students an agriculture-based practice experience that showcases this career path in a positive manner and by demonstrating the range of both professional and lifestyle options to be found in the agri-food sector in rural Saskatchewan, our hope is the mentorship program will encourage students to seriously consider food animal or mixed practice as an attractive career option.

By exposing veterinary students with little-to-no experience with agriculture or livestock to the modern concepts used in livestock production, the hope is that some early experience and association with people in those industries will influence students to choose electives in their third and fourth years of study that will prepare them for rural food animal practice.

Veterinarians from different types of practice may do things, see things and think about things in different ways. Individual livestock producers and other clients are equally as diverse in their ways of handling livestock and managing their production units. Exposing students to food animal practice from many points of view is one of the strengths of the mentorship program.

### Terms and Conditions:

1. All mentoring practices and students accepted into the program will be required to attend a webinar about student success with the Mentorship Program. This webinar will be held prior to the start of the program.
2. Supervising veterinary professionals must be in good standing with the association.
3. Practices will be responsible for providing mentorship and support to the student for a minimum of fourteen (14) weeks during the period commencing early in May of the program year.
4. Financial support provided by the practice must be either cash or a combination of cash and in-kind contributions that equals at least \$3,000 over and above the \$6,500 provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and the SVMA for the 14-week period. Practices may provide financial support above the \$3,000 minimum.
5. In-kind contributions such as suitable living accommodations, board and room or travel support, to a maximum of \$1,500 for the 14-week period, are allowed. Other in-kind contributions made by the mentoring practice should be discussed with the SVMA prior to the start of the summer program.
6. The SVMA will provide each mentoring practice with three payments over the summer: of \$2,000 at the end of May, \$2000 at the end of June and \$2500 at the end of July.

7. While the 14-week mentorship period normally extends into August, **there is no wage support paid beyond the end of July**. Students and practices need to know they will receive wage support payments only three (3) times over the 14-week period.
8. Mentoring practices are to use the funds provided by the SVMA as part of the wages paid to the student. Standard deductions must be made from the student's gross wages: the workers compensation program is mandatory. Disability and other insurance is the responsibility of the student.
9. Mentorship students are required to keep a log of their activities over the summer and to submit three reports to the SVMA registrar regarding their activities. A online reporting form will be mailed prior to each of the reporting window openings.
  - The first report is due the first week of June
  - The second report is due the first week of July
  - ***The first two reports must be received by the SVMA office for the final cheque to be issued.***
  - A final report that consists of a questionnaire provided by the SVMA office is to be submitted by by mid-August
10. A student can spend the 14-week mentorship period in more than one mentoring practice. This must be determined before April 1 of the program year, with any agreements with other practices already in place.

### Application and Selection Process

1. First and second year veterinary students from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine will seek out a practice that will be willing to mentor them as a summer student employee.
  - a. Saskatchewan resident students will be prioritized in the selection process, however, should additional spots remain, they may be filled with other students.
2. Summer Student Application form and Participation Agreement form (both are at the end of this package) are to be filled out and returned by the deadline.
3. The Summer Student Committee will review all the applications and determine how the ten (10) summer student funding positions will be awarded.
4. The SVMA office staff will be communicating with the successful (and unsuccessful) applicants.
  - a. If an application is declined, the practice and student may continue a summer student employment, without funding from this program. (There is also Summer Student Funding programs through the federal government.)

### The Mentor's role:

1. Expose the (first or second year) student to the business of animal agriculture and food animal practice over the 14 weeks they will be involved in the mentorship program.
2. Allow the mentorship student (or mentee) to see every facet of the practice:
  - a. the day-to-day activities of a practitioner dealing with animals
  - b. the demographics and geography of the practice
    - client and species statistics
    - staffing
    - work loads
    - seasonal caseloads
    - practice history

- issues unique to the specific practice
- c. commercial aspects of practice
- fees
  - billing practices
  - sales practices and markups
  - drug inventories
  - dispensing protocols
  - staff salaries
  - how the practice interacts with pharmaceutical companies and representatives
- d. the practice's philosophy regarding the use of registered veterinary technologists:  
The mentor should encourage technical and lay staff to act as mentors as well. This is an opportunity for the staff to demonstrate their roles in the practice.
3. Mentors should strive to instill confidence in the student regarding their increase in knowledge and understanding related to food animal production practices and the business of raising livestock as the summer progresses.
  4. Mentors should determine the "comfort level" the student has in dealing with producers and their animals within the first few days of employment. Some students have a great deal of experience in this area; others may have had little or no exposure to either.
  5. Work from the perspective that this student could potentially become a new associate who would then be dealing with your clients after joining the practice. New associates make better impressions on clients if they can demonstrate a reasonable level of familiarity with the principles and the language associated with the various livestock sectors.
  6. Discuss the client base of the practice, from hobby farms to intensive livestock production operations, the various skill and knowledge levels regarding animal husbandry, the clients' acceptance and use of modern or innovative production practices.
  7. Discuss your practice's herd health and companion animal health protocols:
    - vaccination programs
    - spring processing of cows and calves
    - fall processing of feeders
  8. Review the practice fee schedule and discuss how and when these are set. Also discuss the use of cost estimates for work done with both livestock and companion animals.
  9. Have the student perform an audit on the medical records kept by the practice with reference to the SVMA Practice Standards.
  10. Discuss biosecurity both on farm and in the clinic.
  11. Discuss emergency preparedness and response plans using civic and animal disease situations.
  12. Discuss animal welfare issues including dealing with suspected cases of animal abuse.

### External experiences:

Producers may allow student participation without mentoring supervisor to be present at certain times:

- Try to get the student involved in any suitable feedlot activity. Spending a day at a feedlot with the manager, pen checker, processors, those dealing with the sick pen, or the person selecting animals that are “finished” and ready to market, would be an educational experience well worth the time.
- Assist with branding and processing of cattle prior to being turned out to summer pastures.
- Visit a community pasture to assist in intakes, sorting, moving; or spend time with a pasture rider.
- Visit the diagnostic labs to follow-up on submissions from individual cases submitted by the practice.
- Visit nearby game farms, riding stables, PMU farms and local abattoirs, where possible, to broaden the student’s exposure to the various livestock sectors.

### Flexibility:

It may be possible for mentorship students to spend a short period of time (a few days or longer) in another mentoring practice. This would have to be agreed upon by all parties. Allowing students maximum exposure to the many and varied aspects of the livestock industry and different practice styles can add to the value of the mentorship program. The program can be as flexible as necessary as long as the student is being truly mentored in the art and science of mixed or large animal practice.



## 2023 SUMMER STUDENT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION

For WCVM students in first or second year of study

Name \_\_\_\_\_ WCVM class of \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

High school attended \_\_\_\_\_

Colleges or universities attended \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reason for applying for a mentorship (add additional page(s) if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List practices or other livestock industry facilities where you have worked or volunteered \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of practice that has offered to mentor you summer 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

Name of supervising veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_

Other comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Return completed forms to the SVMA office by November 30, 2022.**

202-224 Pacific Avenue · Saskatoon · SK · S7K 1N9 E | [svma@svma.sk.ca](mailto:svma@svma.sk.ca)  
For details, visit [www.svma.sk.ca](http://www.svma.sk.ca) / Programs & Services / Mentorship Program

## PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

I, (student name) \_\_\_\_\_ agree to the following:

1. Complete a minimum fourteen (14) week mentorship program during the period **May 01 to August 15, 2023** inclusive.
  - Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_
  - End Date: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Submit three (3) written reports (500 words minimum) on preceptorship activities. Report deadlines and report form links will be emailed prior to the submission window. Missing one of the will result in the SVMA withholding the final program payment.)
3. The primary supervisor and the student will be required to attend a live webinar on summer student program success. Other supervisors/staff are encouraged to attend.
4. Notify the SVMA office immediately should I decide not to participate in the mentorship program. Notice of withdrawal from the program should be received by the SVMA office **before April 1.**
5. Discuss regular and emergency working hours, time off, insurance and whether or not accommodation arrangements will be required with the practice **before April 1.**
6. Confirm which veterinarian in the practice will be the **primary mentor** for the duration of the program. This may or may not be the practice owner.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name of mentoring practice(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of supervising veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of supervising veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

The Ministry of Agriculture provides a \$5,000 grant and the SVMA contributes \$1,500 to each mentoring practice (in three equal payments) for the summer student's wages. The mentoring practice must contribute an additional \$3,000 to each student over the 14-week duration of the mentorship program.

**Return completed forms to the SVMA office by November 30, 2022.**

202-224 Pacific Avenue · Saskatoon · SK · S7K 1N9 E | [svma@svma.sk.ca](mailto:svma@svma.sk.ca)  
For details, visit [www.svma.sk.ca](http://www.svma.sk.ca) / Programs & Services / Mentorship Program



**Background:**

The WCVM is Manitoba's veterinary school. The current interprovincial funding agreement designates 15 subsidized seats for Manitoba students.

**Analysis:**

Manitoba must drastically increase the number of veterinarians in the province to meet the current demand for veterinary services and ensure that the Manitobans and their animals have timely access to veterinary care. While a myriad of strategies will need to be employed, the MVMA asserts that increasing Manitoba designated seats at the WCVM plays a key role in ensuring a sustainable veterinary community in Manitoba.

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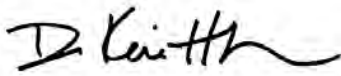
**Contact:** Corey Wilson, MVMA Executive Director / Registrar

E: [registrar@mvma.ca](mailto:registrar@mvma.ca), P: 204 832 1276 ext.1

**Additional Information:**

- Detailed Brief: Increase Manitoba Designated Seats at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM)

Signed:



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Dr. Keri Hudson Reykdal

President of the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association

# **Detailed Brief: Increased Manitoba Designated Seats at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM)**

1. [Introduction](#)
2. [Current Veterinary Practice in Manitoba Data](#)
  - A. [Veterinarians](#)
  - B. [Veterinary Practices](#)
3. [Current Shortage of Veterinarians Data](#)
  - A. [Shortage in Canada](#)
  - B. [Manitoba Specific Data](#)
4. [Risks and Effects of Shortage of Veterinarians in Manitoba](#)
5. [Steps taken by the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association and Ongoing Commitments](#)
6. [Request to the Government of Manitoba](#)
7. [Recommendations](#)
  - A. [To the Government of Manitoba](#)
  - B. [To the Western College of Veterinary Medicine](#)
8. [Appendices](#)
  - A. [Advisory Note of March 6, 2019](#)
  - B. [CVMA Workforce Survey](#)

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

On March 6, 2019, the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) sent an Advisory Note to the Government of Manitoba and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) following concerns that the Manitoba Government may reduce funding to the WCVM (Appendix A). A reduction in funding to the WCVM was feared to cause a shortage of veterinarians in Manitoba as well as reduce access to many of the other services to Manitoba veterinarians, their patients, and the public at large that the WCVM provides.

The MVMA was very grateful for the meaningful dialog with the Manitoba Government following the review of the briefing note and commends the Manitoba Government on its continued funding of the WCVM.

There have been drastic changes in the workforce and market demands since the March 6, 2019 Advisory Note, requiring swift and forceful action. While the previous Advisory Note continues to reflect the WCVM's role in Manitoba, and the role of veterinarians in Manitoba, it does not capture the current shortages of veterinarians in the province and the risks this shortage presents.

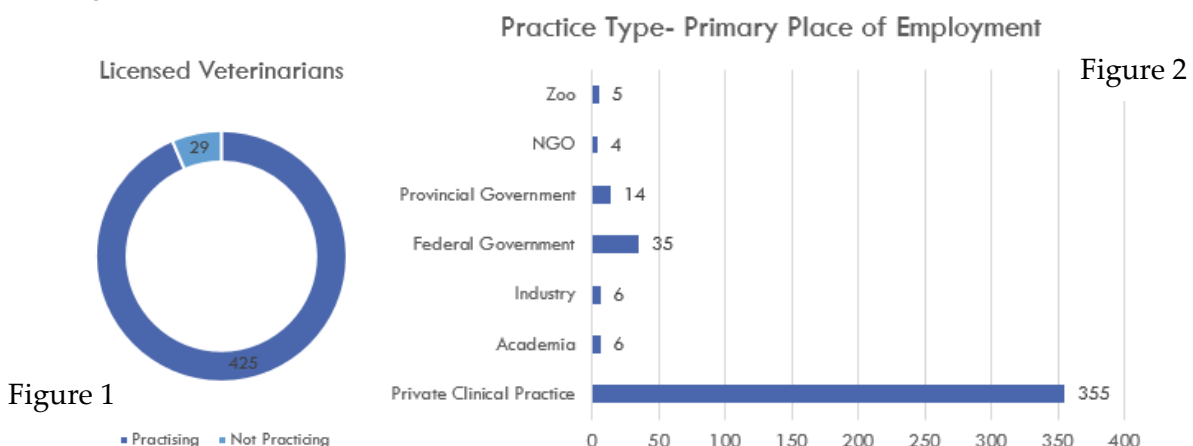
## 2. Current Veterinary Practice in Manitoba Data

### A. Veterinarians

To assess the current workforce of veterinarians in Manitoba, the MVMA provides the following data regarding the current workforce (as of May 1, 2022).

The MVMA currently has 449 veterinarians that are both registered and licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Manitoba.

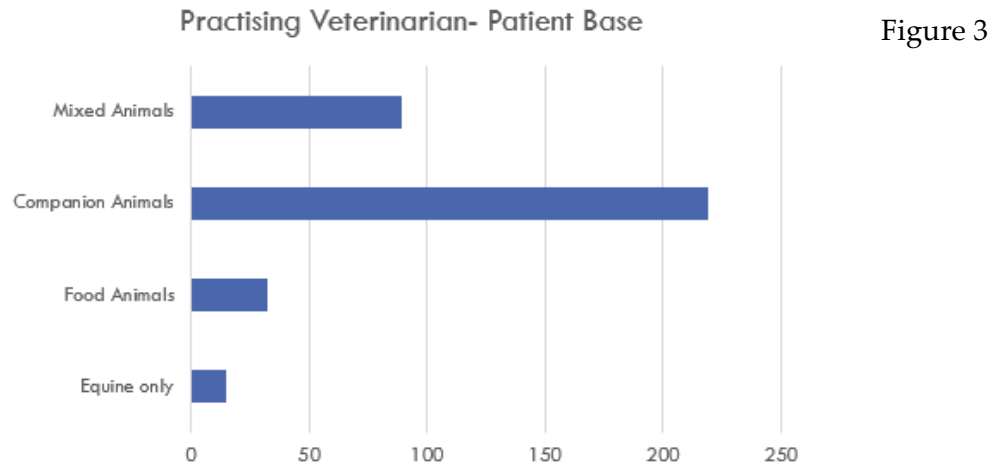
94.6% of licensed veterinarians (n=425) report that they are currently working in the veterinary field (Figure 1).



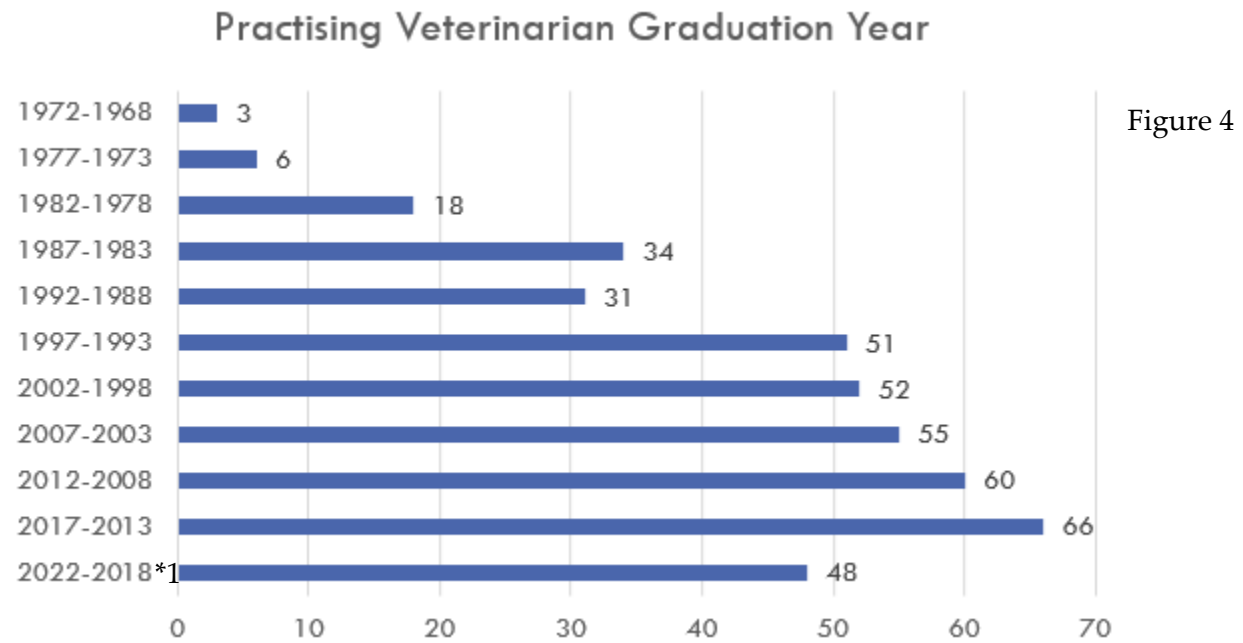
The vast majority of licensed veterinarians work in Private Clinical Practice (Figure 2). This data solely captures a licensed veterinarians primary place of employment.



Of the veterinarians that engage in private practice, roughly two-thirds work solely with small/companion animals, while the remaining work in some capacity with large/food production animals (Figure 3).



The average veterinarian graduated in 2003, with a standard deviation of 12 years<sup>1</sup>. (Figure 4)



Assuming a 30-year average career, 93 licensed veterinarians are at risk of retiring in the shorter term and 51 likely to retire in the next 5 years. Assuming a 40-year average career, 28 licensed veterinarians are at risk of retiring in the shorter term and 31 likely to retire in the next 5 years. Of the 425 practising veterinarians in Manitoba, 72% are graduates of the WCVN, 8% are graduates of other Canadian veterinary colleges, and 20% are graduates of programs outside of Canada (Figure 5).

<sup>1</sup> The 2022 graduation year does not include 2022 graduates of most accredited programs.

Figure 5

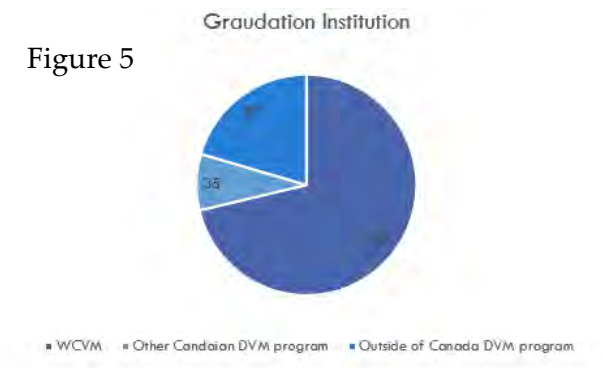
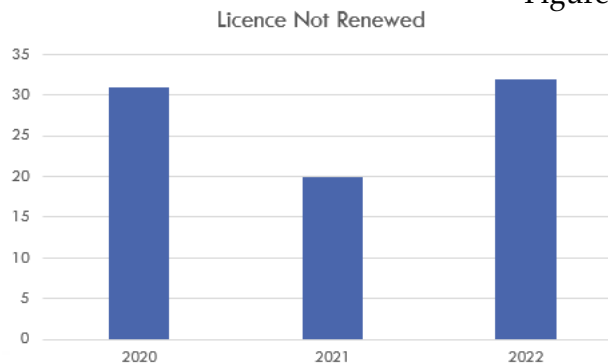


Figure 6



Since the 2019 briefing note, the MVMA has seen an average of 28 veterinarians cancel or fail to renew their licence to practice each year (Figure 6). This occurs for a wide array of reasons- from temporary leaves from the profession to care for family, to career changes, to retirement.

### B. Veterinary Practices

In addition to licensing individual veterinarians, the MVMA permits and inspects private veterinary practices in Manitoba. These practices provide services to both industry and families in Manitoba. As of May 1, 2022, there are 142 private practices in Manitoba (Figure 7).

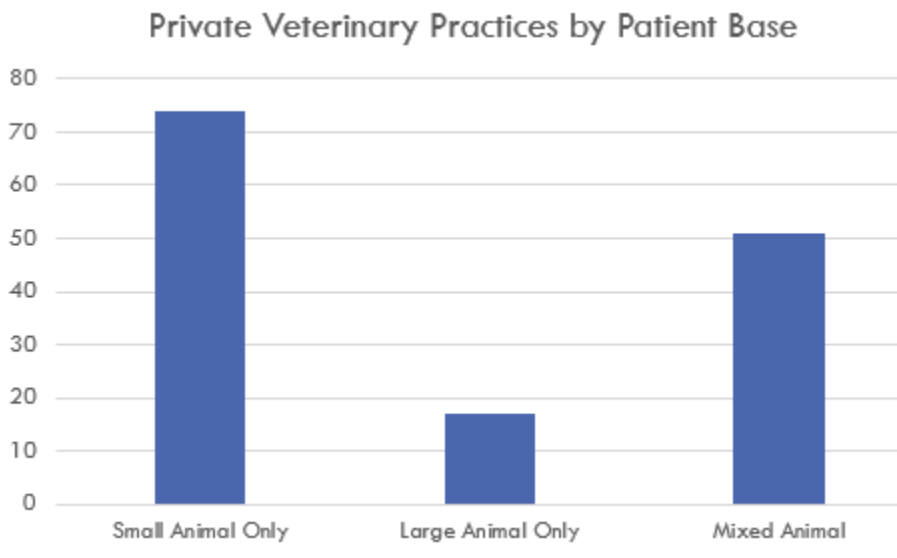


Figure 7

Veterinary practices exist throughout Manitoba. 58% of veterinary practices are located outside of the Winnipeg metropolitan area (30km radius of Winnipeg) (Figure 8).

Practice by Location

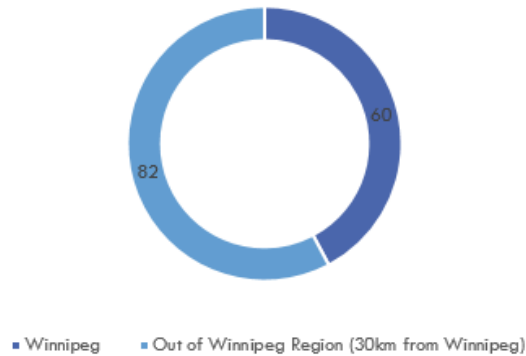


Figure 8

In addition to private practices, licensed veterinarians work in an array of vital settings in Manitoba, including the provincial and federal government, industry, universities and other educational institutions, and other governmental institutions.

### 3. [Current Data of the Shortage of Veterinarians](#)

#### C. Shortage in Canada

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) published the 2020 CVMA Workforce Study just prior to the current pandemic (Appendix B). The 2020 CVMA Workforce Study speaks to the shortage from largely a national level and provides Manitoba specific data as well. While this data is now a few years old, both the national and province specific data help quantify expected shortage in the long term and help identify issues surrounding shortage generally.

The 2020 CVMA Workforce Study identified the following three forces as the main contributors to the shortage of veterinarians throughout Canada (with the exception of PEI).

- *Population growth has exceeded the rate at which new veterinarians join the workforce*
- *Increased willingness to medicalize and spend on pets, creates additional demand*
- *Historically high retirement rates amongst large baby boomer cohort, accelerated by the opportunity to sell clinics to corporates<sup>2</sup>*

Indeed, the 2020 CVMA Workforce Study found that while 4.5 million dogs were medicalized (see a veterinarian on at least annually) in 2007, by 2020 this number had jumped to 7.1 million dogs.<sup>3</sup>

In terms of projecting the future demand for veterinary services, the 2020 CVMA Workforce Study found that household formation, disposable income, and the cost of veterinary services

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<sup>2</sup> 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, page 24

<sup>3</sup> 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, page 40

are the main factors.<sup>4</sup> Household formation in Canada is growing at a higher rate than all other G7 countries.<sup>5</sup> Further, the growth in disposable income is also the highest among G7 countries.<sup>6</sup> In terms of the cost of veterinary services, normal market principles are problematic. Services provided by veterinarians are largely focused on animal welfare; reducing demand of veterinary services by increasing cost would have the effect of reducing access to care to animals in need.

Acknowledging the current and ongoing shortage of veterinarians, the Government of Alberta has drastically increased its funding of the University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM). The Government of Alberta has committed an additional \$8.4 million annually to increase enrollment at UCVM and an additional \$58.5 million capital investment to the UCVM to double its annual enrollment.<sup>7</sup> Further, the Government of British Columbia has committed to investing an additional \$1.7 million to add an additional 20 subsidized seats at the WCVM.<sup>8</sup>

The MVMA submits that additional investments are required in Manitoba to reduce the shortage of veterinarians in the province.

#### D. Current Data of the Shortage of Veterinarians in Manitoba

The MVMA administered a workforce survey from November 29, 2021- to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. In the survey, each registered private practice in Manitoba was asked about the practices current staffing levels and the extent of any staffing shortages in the practice (if any).

Specifically, registered private practices were asked how many Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) veterinarians are currently at the practice as well as how many additional FTEs veterinarians are needed (if any) to meet current demand at the practice. FTE was defined as 40 hours of work per week.

At the time the workforce survey was launched, there were 144 private practices in the study (two closed during the reporting period and were removed from the data). Of the 142 private practices currently in Manitoba, 99 private practices reported data.

The data obtained in the workforce survey is found in Figure 9.

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<sup>4</sup> 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, page 17

<sup>5</sup> 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, page 38

<sup>6</sup> 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, page 39

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ucalgary.ca/news/vet-med-ucalgary-receive-nearly-67m-double-its-enrolment> accessed May 26, 2022

<sup>8</sup> <https://news.usask.ca/articles/colleges/2022/province-of-b.c.-doubles-student-seats-in-veterinary-medicine-program-at-usask.php> accessed May 26, 2022

		Number of Private Practices	Current FTE Positions	Reported FTE Positions Needed	Current FTE Average per Practice	Average FTE Need per Practice	Standard Deviation FTE Need per Practice
Winnipeg	Small Animal Only	41	112.7	29.2	2.8	0.7	1
	Mixed/Large Practice	7	21.95	4	2.9	0.57	0.7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>134.65</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1</b>
Rural*	Small Animal Only	15	30	11.5	2.1	0.8	0.9
	Mixed/Large Practice	36	51.6	23.5	1.4	0.7	0.76
	<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>216.25</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.89</b>	

Figure 9

\*Rural indicates that the practice is not located within 30km of Winnipeg.

When looking at Manitoba as a whole, the average practice has a workforce of 2.2FTE veterinarians and currently needs .7FTE veterinarians to meet current demand at the practice. When looking at the bigger picture, there are at least 68 FTE veterinarian positions that need to be filled in Manitoba to meet current demand in private practice alone. Further extrapolating the shortage to include the 43 practices that did not participate in the survey is somewhat moot, however it emphasizes that the 68 FTE veterinarian positions are the minimum additional workforce of veterinarians needed to meet current demand for private practice veterinary medicine in Manitoba.

To gain a better understanding of how shortage is felt across Manitoba and across patient bases, the data has been segregated by practice location (Winnipeg vs rural) and by practice type (small animal only vs mixed/large animal practice).

Generally speaking, both Winnipeg and rural practices report experiencing drastic shortage in the veterinarian workforce—an average of .7FTE veterinarians per practice. When looking at the average size of each practice, though, rural practices experience a higher degree of shortage; rural practices report an average need of .7FTE veterinarian workforce per 1.4 current FTE veterinarian workforce (50% workforce increase), whereas Winnipeg practices report an average need of .7FTE veterinarian workforce per 2.8 current FTE veterinarian workforce (25% workforce increase).

In addition to the work force survey, the 2020 CVMA Workforce Study identified that the growth of veterinarians in Manitoba is slower than other Canadian jurisdictions.<sup>9</sup>

#### 4. Risks and Effects of Shortage of Veterinarians in Manitoba

The MVMA submits that the current and projected long-term shortage of veterinarians in Manitoba pose many risks to the public.

First and foremost, a shortage of veterinarians leads to delayed and reduced access to care for Manitobans and their animals. This is already evident in Manitoba through the increase in practices that are not able to accommodate new clients, to the increase in wait times for those looking to access veterinary care.

The MVMA is also concerned as shortages of veterinary care tends to disproportionately affect rural and other underserved areas. This is already evident as there are Veterinary Service District veterinary clinics that are sitting vacant due to a lack of ability to recruit and retain veterinarians to provide service through these clinics. Each Veterinary Service District veterinary clinic that sits unoccupied represents a district that has reduced access to care. This is detrimental to both large and small animal owners in the area.

The risks associated with shortage are vast and include the effects of shortage on government veterinarian positions, industry positions, and educational and research positions. Risks can range from failure to monitor and control contagious and infectious diseases, to failure to address animal welfare concerns, to impacts on industries ability to ensure healthy, sustainable herds.

Lastly, the MVMA submits that there is risk to veterinarians as the shortage of veterinarians in Manitoba continues. These risks include increased stress on veterinarians as they try to meet the demand for services by the public, risk of burnout for veterinarians that are overworked for extended periods of time, and risk that veterinarians will leave the profession early due to the additional stress. These risks would all lead to a reduction of the work output of veterinarians and further exacerbate the workforce shortage.

#### 5. **Steps taken by the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association and Ongoing Commitments**

Since the 2019 Advisory Note, the MVMA has invested heavily in its relationships with WCVN students. While ultimately the MVMA cannot control whether a Manitoba-funded WCVN graduate chooses to practice in Manitoba, the MVMA believes it plays a vital role in ensuring that WCVN students remain connected to the veterinary community in Manitoba.

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<sup>9</sup> 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, page 22



The actions taken by the MVMA to improve connections between WCVM students and the veterinary community in Manitoba include:

- Funding student participation at MVMA events, including the annual Membership Engagement Day (previously the CenCan Veterinary Conference), annual WCVM Student and MVMA Council Meet and Greet, annual summer student get together, and annual WCVM student information sessions. The goal of these initiatives is to introduce and engage veterinary students to the careers and lifestyle offered to them in Manitoba. These events provide an opportunity for the MVMA, Manitoba government, CFIA and practicing veterinarians in Manitoba to showcase the province and opportunities for students following graduation as well as provide students with professional connections to the province.
- Maintaining the MVMA-developed [DVM Student Practice and Job Opportunities](#) online resource. This resource provides an easy to use map of all practices in Manitoba that are offering students practice opportunities. The practices provide detailed information about their practice, the opportunities they offer, and clear contact information for follow-up.
- Maintaining the MVMA-developed Student Advertising online resource. This resource allows WCVM students to provide information to the MVMA membership about what types of practice and/or job opportunities they are looking for as well as personal contact information.
- Supporting the WCVM Manitoba Student Group. This initiative was started in 2021 and provides the WCVM Manitoba Student Group with funding to meet to discuss Manitoba issues.
- Helping to increase the number of externship and rotations being hosted in Manitoba. This includes continuing to provide information to Manitoba veterinarians about the opportunity to host externships and rotations in Manitoba and serving as a liaison between Manitoba veterinarians and the WCVM. The MVMA will discuss developing an externship program collaboratively with the Manitoba government, WCVM and practicing veterinarians in Manitoba.
- Developing alternative strategies to address the shortage of veterinarians in Manitoba including, continuing to support the Veterinary Technologist Scope of Practice, Retention, and Career Advancement Committee.
- Collaborating with other Canadian veterinary associations to develop alternative strategies to address the shortage of veterinarians in Canada.

- Adopting an alternative pathway for graduates of programs not accredited by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association or American Veterinary Medical Association to obtain registration and licensure in Manitoba.
- Working with the WCVM and Manitoba government to improve recruitment and retention of veterinarians to Manitoba.

While the MVMA has made improvements since the 2019 briefing note, the MVMA commits to engaging in further retention efforts. The MVMA is in the process of finalizing a DVM Student Engagement plan which formalizes and expands the ongoing communication and engagement commitments that the MVMA has made to WCVM DVM students. The MVMA is hoping that ongoing retention plans can include the Manitoba government, to create a stronger relationship between WCVM students, the MVMA and the Manitoba government.

## **6. Request to the Government of Manitoba**

The MVMA requests that the Government of Manitoba increase the number of subsidized student seats for Manitobans at WCVM to 25 starting in the 2023/2024 school year. The MVMA believes that this increase is needed as one measure to address the ongoing shortage of veterinarians in Manitoba.

The MVMA asserts that increasing seats specifically at the WCVM is the ideal educational program to train additional veterinarians. WCVM graduates prepared and competent veterinarians. Since the 2019 briefing note, each Manitoba funded student has successfully completed their *North American Veterinary Licensing Examination* (a standardized licensing examination) before graduation. In addition, since the 2019 briefing note, all Manitoba funded students have graduated from the program.

In addition to the competent, qualified veterinarians that the WCVM graduated each year, Manitoba was able to retain a high percentage of veterinarians despite the challenges in doing so. Since the 2019 Report, the retention rate of WCVM graduates has largely remained the same. On average 12 WCVM graduates per year have obtained registration and licensure with the MVMA since graduation (83% of the 15 Manitoba funded seats). This retention rate continues to be higher than other professionals, including human doctors. Further, when looking at more short-term retention rates, it is important to consider modern career trajectories for new veterinarians. As is reported in the 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, 29% of veterinary students plan on pursuing further education following graduation.<sup>10</sup> As Manitoba does not have an academic institution to provide advanced education in the field, and currently has few board-certified veterinarians that are able to provide board certification residency programs, students

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<sup>10</sup> 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, page 33

looking for more specialized training are currently not able to do so in Manitoba. This suggests that looking at long-term student retention would more accurately capture the return on investment for veterinarian students.

The MVMA also requests that the Manitoba Government immediately work with the MVMA and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine to explore and implement approaches that will encourage more current and future Manitoba veterinary students to return to Manitoba

## 7. **Recommendations**

In addition to the request for an additional 10 subsidized Manitoba seats at the WCVM, the MVMA offers the following recommendations to the Manitoba government and the WCVM to ensure that this investment provides the maximum benefit to the province and its taxpayers. These recommendations are crafted to enhance the power of this investment by aiming to increase the retention of Manitoba funded students and to ensure that Manitoba graduates of the WCVM are as practice ready and resilient as possible when entering the workforce.

### A. Recommendations to the Government of Manitoba

#### 1) Match the incentives of other provinces

Since the 2019 Interprovincial Agreement, the Government of Saskatchewan has implemented a robust retention program that includes financial incentives for new graduates to practice in Saskatchewan. A lack of comparable incentives in Manitoba exacerbates the issues in improving the retention of WCVM students in Manitoba. A spring 2021 survey conducted by the MVMA's WCVM student liaison, a fall 2021 MVMA student survey and Spring 2022 report from WCVM students consistently reported that Manitoba's lack of parity with Saskatchewan financial incentives has played an important role in a student's decision to remain in Saskatchewan rather than return to Manitoba.

### B. Recommendation to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine

The MVMA recommends that the WCVM:

#### 1) Establish a summer clinic practice requirement

While some WCVM students currently obtain summer employment in clinical practice, the MVMA believes that requiring summer clinical practice through the WCVM curriculum would lead to more competent, confident, and ready-to-practice graduates.

The 2020 CVMA Workforce Study found that the preparedness of students upon graduation was the third largest issue facing the veterinary profession, following mental wellbeing and

shortage of veterinary professionals.<sup>11</sup> The MVMA submits that more hands-on experience during veterinary training will produce graduates that are more prepared for clinical practice.

2) Allow for more external rotations in private clinics in Manitoba

In addition to the benefits described above, increasing rotation and externship opportunities in Manitoba allows WCVM students to build strong relationships and mentorship opportunities in Manitoba. These relationships and mentorship opportunities not only help produce more competent professionals, but also helps provide protective factors to burnout.

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<sup>11</sup> 2020 CVMA Workforce Study, page 48

**Appendix A**

**Advisory Note for Manitoba Education and Training**  
**Copy to Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives**

Type:        Decision         Discussion         Information

Attention to: Minister         DM         ADM         Branch

**Division/Branch:**    Manitoba Education and Training

**Title:**                    Ongoing veterinary student training funding

**Date:**                    March 6, 2019

**Issue Summary:**

Veterinarians in Manitoba are involved in livestock health, animal population control, detection and education regarding zoonotic disease, companion animal health, prudent antibiotic use, detection of emerging diseases, animal welfare, One Health initiatives, government services, laboratory research and diagnostic services. The veterinarian’s mandate has significantly evolved in the past decade. With this evolution comes the need for more veterinarians to fill new positions.

The Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) has developed a comprehensive plan to improve recruitment and retention of graduates to the regions of greatest need and to ensure the sustainability of this vital profession to the agricultural industry and animal health in Manitoba.

**Conclusions and Recommendations:**

- Collaborative negotiation of the new interprovincial agreement to ensure that the quota of student seats for Manitobans at Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) in Saskatoon is maintained at the current number.
- Initiatives to enhance recruitment and retention of WCVM graduates, including earmarked seats for rural students, expanded mentorship programs and efficiency improvements to the current provincial STEP program.

**Background:**

The WCVM is Manitoba’s veterinary school. The current interprovincial funding agreement is being renegotiated and is due for renewal in 2020. The MVMA is asking the Government of Manitoba to maintain its current level of funding and to continue offering 15 seats to Manitoba students

### **Current Status:**

- Manitoba currently the lowest number of veterinarians per capita in Western Canada. An analysis of veterinarians preparing to retire indicates that this shortage will be exacerbated over the next five years, leading to increased risk of poor disease outbreak management, worsening animal welfare management, and likely increased veterinarian burnout.
- In a recent survey of MVMA members, 21% of practice owners indicated that they wished to hire another veterinarian immediately and another 38% plan to hire in the next 1-2 years, although many businesses have stopped advertising due to the chronic shortage of applicants for the open positions.
- This current shortage of veterinarians is highest in the rural regions, which has the potential of greatest negative impact on the agricultural economy in the event of a foreign animal disease (FAD) that is not detected promptly.
- Manitoba is one of the few provinces that has strong cross-departmental linkages through the One Health Steering Committee which has representatives from Manitoba Health, Manitoba Agriculture and Sustainable Development. This committee relies on practicing veterinarians to carry out public policy aimed at antibiotic resistance prevention, zoonotic disease surveillance, foodborne disease control and animal welfare management, to name just a few aspects of their work.
- WCVN conducts extensive research on economically important food animal diseases and provides direct assistance to Manitoba producers and veterinarians in managing these threats.
- WCVN's Prairie Diagnostic Services provides critical support to the Manitoba Veterinary Diagnostic Services Laboratory.

### **Future Status:**

The Manitoba/WCVN partnership represents 20% of the annual funding provided by the western provinces. If the Manitoba government decreases support, the loss of funding will have a considerable impact on the college and its ability to meet its mandate to Western Canada.

### **Analysis:**

A continued strong commitment to WCVN is required to prevent a shortage of veterinary services which would impact multiple aspects of the agricultural industry and animal health in Manitoba.



### Cautionary Notes:

- The local and provincial economy benefits from an estimated \$174,338,000 in direct economic activity from veterinary clinics. The rural regions are at the highest risk of losing veterinarians over the next 5 to 10 years, which in turn will have a direct effect on local services and economies.
- The risk of a FAD, such as the current internationally circulating African Swine Fever. With the future shortage of veterinarians in the rural regions, the risk of missing a FAD is substantially higher and would have a devastating effect on the swine industry in Manitoba.

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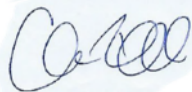
### Additional Information:

- Detailed Brief: Interprovincial Funding Agreement for the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM)
- Letters of Support

Signed:



Dr. Jonas Watson  
MVMA President



Dr. Chris Bell  
Chair, MVMA Manitoba WCVM Seats Ad Hoc Committee

# **Detailed Brief: Interprovincial Funding Agreement for the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM)**

1. Introduction
2. WCVM's Role in Manitoba
3. The Role of the Veterinary Profession in Manitoba
4. Looking to the Future: Recommendations
5. Letters of Support

## **1. INTRODUCTION:**

### VETERINARY MEDICINE IN MANITOBA

Veterinarians in Manitoba have varied job descriptions and a vast array of responsibilities. We are involved in companion animal health, animal population control, detection and education regarding zoonotic disease, livestock health, prudent antibiotic use, the detection of emerging diseases, animal welfare, One Health initiatives, government services, laboratory research and diagnostic services. The veterinarian's mandate has significantly evolved in the past decade. With this evolution comes the need for more veterinarians to fill new positions.

Manitoba currently has 408 licenced veterinarians practicing in the province. On a per capita basis, that is the lowest in Western Canada. There is a need for more veterinarians in Manitoba, and this shortage is expected to worsen in the next five years. There are 72 veterinarians currently licensed in Manitoba that have been in practice 35 years or longer. The vast majority of these vets are projected to retire within the next five years. Another 72 licensed vets have been in practice 29 – 34 years. A substantial proportion of these veterinarians are also projected to retire within the next five years, with the remainder retiring within the next ten years. In a recent survey of MVMA members, 21% of practice owners indicated that they wished to hire another veterinarian immediately and another 38% plan to hire in the next 1-2 years. Many practices looking for veterinarians have stopped advertising due to the historical lack of applicants for open positions.

## **2. THE ROLE OF WESTERN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE IN MANITOBA:**

### **OVER HALF A CENTURY OF PARTNERSHIP AND INVESTMENT**

The Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN) is a regional school dedicated to training veterinarians in the four western provinces. Over the last 56 years, the Manitoba government has made a significant investment to the infrastructure, facilities, equipment and expertise at the WCVN. The WCVN is Manitoba's veterinary school. The current interprovincial funding agreement is being renegotiated and is due for renewal in 2020. The Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) is asking the Government of Manitoba to maintain its current level of funding and to continue offering 15 seats to Manitoba students.

The MVMA is actively pursuing initiatives that will improve the recruitment of WCVN mixed animal graduates to Manitoba and improve retention by supporting all veterinarians when they are in practice. The WCVN serves the province in a variety of critical areas. We feel that a continued strong partnership with the WCVN is vital to Manitobans.

### **WCVN PROVIDES MUCH MORE THAN SEATS**

WCVN's commitment extends far beyond teaching 15 veterinary students each year. Under the interprovincial agreement, the WCVN's responsibility to all four western provinces includes seven key commitments that have been met for more than 50 years.

- Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program
- Postgraduate and specialist training program
- Research in biomedical and veterinary sciences
- Clinical and diagnostic services
- Continuing education
- Public extension education
- Training support for veterinary technology students

## WCVM PRODUCES QUALIFIED VETERINARIANS FOR MANITOBA

Numbers compiled by the WCVM and MVMA show an 82% retention rate of WCVM graduates to Manitoba. This number includes students from Manitoba, as well as from the other western provinces. When the latter are excluded, the rate is 72%. This number far surpasses the 51% retention rate for MDs trained in Manitoba (source: [www.ornh.mb.ca/capr\\_carms\\_review](http://www.ornh.mb.ca/capr_carms_review)).

The WCVM has an excellent record for successfully training veterinary students. In the last ten years, 95.3% of MB students that entered the program completed their DVM. The WCVM also has an impressive rate of 98%-100% of graduates successfully completing the North American Veterinary Licensing Exam (NAVLE), which places our regional school in the top 20% of veterinary schools worldwide.

## WCVM PROVIDES POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

A specialist, also known as a diplomate, is a veterinarian who has invested in additional training and education in a specific area of veterinary medicine. Manitoba currently has only eight specialists in the province. We have a shortage of specialists in the fields of emergency medicine, ophthalmology, theriogenology, shelter medicine, internal medicine, surgery, dermatology, radiology, neurology and oncology, according to a survey of veterinarians practicing in the province. The WCVM is the only location in Western Canada capable of offering postgraduate degree education in veterinary medicine.

Due to the changing nature of veterinary medicine and expectations of pet owners and producers, veterinary services have evolved, and technology has vastly improved. Specialists are required to offer and perform the advanced veterinary medical procedures and services expected by veterinary clients in Manitoba. At present, veterinarians from other provinces provide these specialized services. In some cases, out-of-province specialists travel to Manitoba to provide consults. Alternatively, general practitioners refer clients to the WCVM or other referral centers. Referrals out of province require our clients to travel long distances with sick animals. As well, when these specialized services are accessed out of province, Manitoba loses that potential income.

Veterinarians are increasingly being trained to work with and to refer to specialists. These modern practitioners look for jobs in areas where specialists and referral level practices are easily accessible. Access to specialized services allows veterinarians to offer and provide a higher level of care to their patients and to help maintain a positive work-life balance. Manitoba currently lacks in this area of veterinary service.

## WCVM RESEARCH IS VITAL FOR MANITOBA PRODUCERS

The province of Manitoba has been able to take advantage of many research and development projects funded and supported in part by the WCVM. As part of collaborative disease response teams, herd health investigators are dispatched and assist with herd evaluation, testing and lab result interpretation, whenever an emerging disease threatens the health of western Canada's livestock.

For brevity, we have included only two examples:

### i) Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus

PEDV in Canada has created significant economic impact since 2017, with approximately 200 outbreaks to date, primarily in Manitoba and Ontario. Per premise, the loss is estimated between \$300,000 –500,000. The 2018 outbreak is estimated to have cost > \$50 million alone.

Research at the Veterinary Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO), which is affiliated with WCVM, has played a central role in research, control of the virus, understanding the disease and the development of a vaccine. VIDO provided > 40,000 doses of the vaccine developed to producers in Manitoba. Additionally, they have liaised with industry to update disease control protocols.

### i) WCVM Beef Cattle Research and Response to Disease Outbreak

As part of collaborative disease response teams, herd health investigators are dispatched and assist with herd evaluation, testing and lab result interpretation. WCVM specialists are available to serve on the front lines of these disease investigations, providing their clinical expertise and skills.

In the past decade, major WCVM based research projects have included a western Canada Beef Productivity Study, led by a WCVM epidemiologist and a 5-year longitudinal study of Western Canadian cow-calf industry, led by a WCVM beef cattle researcher. The Beef Cattle Research Council has renewed funding for the cow-calf industry project for another five years, and it has expanded to a national scope. Overall, this project has entailed 13 full surveys on various topics, four follow-up surveys and three quick fact sheets which were distributed to participants of the surveillance network. Although Manitoba is included in the project, it has provided no funding.

## PRAIRIE DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES AT WCVM SUPPORTS OUR PROVINCIAL LAB

Veterinary diagnostic services in Manitoba are provided by both the Manitoba VDS Lab and by Prairie Diagnostic Services (PDS) located at the WCVM. These labs work together to provide a broad range of services to Manitoba. Neither lab can provide all necessary services. Presently, PDS provides Manitoba with a scope of services that the Provincial Laboratory cannot provide. PDS is funded in part by the WCVM, and any decrease in funding will have an impact on the laboratory's ability to provide these essential services. Please see the attached letter for a complete summary of the relationship between MB VDS Lab and PDS.

## WCVM'S VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTRE TEACHING HOSPITAL PROVIDES AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE

A key strength of the WCVM is its veterinary teaching hospital - the only one in Western Canada. The WCVM Veterinary Medical Centre (VMC) offers primary care to animal owners as well as advanced referral services to western Canadian veterinarians, including practitioners in Manitoba who rely on the VMC for access to new technologies and specialized care of their patients. The VMC also provides veterinary students, residents and clinical interns with the facility to develop their clinical and diagnostic skills and to gain hands-on experience with a diverse range of large animal and small animal cases.

## WCVM ALLOWS YOUNG MANITOBANS TO FOLLOW THEIR DREAMS WITH ACCESS TO VETERINARY EDUCATION

In survey after survey veterinary medicine is a top career choice for young people. Because of Canada's regional funding model, WCVM is the only institution where Manitobans can train to become veterinarians without paying astronomical tuition fees to an American or overseas university. Education is a constitutionally guaranteed right. Young Manitobans who chose careers in everything from art history to zoology can access government-funded education in their home province. Because of the highly specialized nature of veterinary medicine, Manitoba is far too small to have its own program, so the government funded education must occur out of the province in our regionally funded school in Saskatoon. There is demand from Manitoba students to enter the program, and there is demand from industry to hire them when they graduate. The bottleneck in between these two demands is the number of seats funded at WCVM.

### **3. THE ROLE OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION IN MANITOBA**

When you picture a veterinarian, you are undoubtedly picturing someone who is tending to an ill or injured animal. Perhaps you are picturing someone like James Herriot, or maybe your own veterinarian when your dog needed his shots. This picture is, of course, accurate, that is what we do. But that is only a partial picture, only part of what we do. It's like having finished one corner of a jigsaw puzzle. Only when you complete the picture do you see the full value that veterinarians bring to Manitoba and therefore the full value of the investment in WCVM.

There are many more parts to this picture. We have listed a few below.

#### **GROWING MANITOBA'S PROSPERITY**

In contrast to human medicine, many veterinarians return to the province to work in, start and operate small businesses. There are 141 active veterinary practices in Manitoba. Based on the most recent Canadian Veterinary Medical Association economic report these practices generate \$174,338,000 in direct economic activity. This puts private veterinary practice roughly on par with the combined economic impact of commercial and recreational fishing in this province.

These practices directly employ approximately 1370 Manitobans and provide work for many more in associated industries. Veterinary clinics collect an estimated \$5,500,000 annually in PST on supplies and medications. Veterinary practices are also growing faster than the overall economy, with growth rates from 4 to 6%.

The indirect economic impact is incalculable as veterinarians are essential to our \$2.2 billion livestock industry. Moreover, the provincial government is focused on the growth of the livestock sector in Manitoba, especially hogs. This will require additional veterinary resources to sustain and support that growth.

Additionally, veterinarians also support in-province education through the employment of graduates from the Veterinary Technologist Program at Red River College and various veterinary assistant programs.

#### **SUPPORTING PUBLIC HEALTH**

One Health is a global initiative that recognizes that the health of humans, animals and ecosystems are interconnected.

Small and large animal veterinarians are essential to the recognition and investigation of serious zoonotic threats and emerging diseases. Veterinarians working in communities throughout the country are vital to early detection of disease and to help ensure public health and safety. Additionally, veterinarians provide essential information to animal owners about diseases and parasites that can be shared between animals and humans.



Globally, some diseases of note that are present in both humans and animals and have had a significant impact on the human population and the economy in recent years include:

- North America and Europe Pandemic Influenza H1N1 2009 Virus (pH1N1)
- West Nile Virus
- Waterborne Diseases: An Outbreak of Escherichia coli in Walkerton, Ontario, Canada
- BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy)
- Blastomycosis
- Lyme Disease
- Rabies

To give a local example, Blastomycosis is a fungal disease that is potentially fatal to both humans and dogs. The disease organism hides in the soil in unpredictable locations throughout southeast Manitoba as well as the Canadian Shield along the Manitoba – Ontario border. Infection occurs when spores are inhaled. It cannot be passed between individuals, but the fact that dogs have their noses to the ground makes them excellent sentinels for identifying sites contaminated with the spores when they become ill. Veterinarians are much more aware of this disease than most human physicians and can often diagnose it quickly enough to treat successfully and then also warn the owners of the risks of disturbing the soil.

Another Manitoba example is Lyme disease, a bacterial infection carried by the black-legged deer tick found throughout much of North America. Dogs, horses and humans are commonly affected by Lyme disease, and veterinary medicine has been on the vanguard of monitoring the spread of these ticks throughout Manitoba. Dogs and horses both live in direct, at times constant, contact with the environment of the ticks, and as such are sentinel species tracking the geographical spread of Lyme disease.

Rabies is a fatal disease transmissible from animal to humans and is present in Manitoba. Veterinarians, particularly in rural Manitoba, are the primary contact point for rabies exposure and act as a liaison between human and animal health.

Veterinarians who treat companion animals have a more significant role to play in human public health than is commonly recognized. The very nature of veterinary medicine places its professionals in the interface between humans and animals; they are uniquely positioned to identify diseases that can affect the health of both humans and animals.

In remote northern and First Nations communities, there is a growing demand for veterinarians to play a key role in supporting public health and animal welfare.

## PREVENTING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

Veterinarians in all fields are stewards of prudent antimicrobial use in animals. Antimicrobial resistance is a growing threat to global health. Veterinarians play a crucial role as advocates for the proper use of antibiotics in pets and livestock.

Health Canada recognizes the critical role that veterinarians play in antimicrobial stewardship. Recent regulations introduced require veterinary prescriptions and direct patient contact for all veterinary antimicrobial treatments and dispensing. Prudent antimicrobial use also is vital to ensuring the safety of the food chain and the prevention of drug resistance.

As a novel example it is worth noting that as of last year, antibiotics used in the bee colonies that pollinate our crops must be exclusively through a prescription by a veterinarian.

## SAFEGUARDING THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND

A 2016 GfK survey estimated that 61% of households in Canada own at least one companion animal. These households look to companion animal and mixed animal practitioners to provide care for these pets. In some cases, this care is the most basic care that contributes to public health and safety by controlling pet overpopulation and providing rabies vaccination. Increasingly, however, pets are playing a much more significant role in family lives. Pets play a role in the emotional, mental and physical well-being of their owners. They are part of the family and as such, pet owners are expecting much more sophisticated care for their pets. In response, there is a growing demand for the services provided by companion animal and mixed animal veterinarians and the range of services offered by these practitioners. Veterinarians play a crucial role in supporting and nurturing this human-animal bond.

## PROMOTING ANIMAL WELFARE

The Office International des Epizooties (OIE), (World Animal Health Association), of which Canada is a member and signatory to agreements and standards, has recognized that the assurance of farm animal welfare is a critical function of the veterinary infrastructure of a nation. The introduction of The Animal Care Act almost 20 years ago placed Manitoba in agreement with the principals of the OIE, recognizing that the administration of this essential public good legislation should be delivered by the Office of the Chief Veterinarian for the province. The Animal Care Act extends the veterinary oversight of animal welfare to include both companion animals and livestock. Veterinarians act as Animal Protection Officers for the Province of Manitoba.

## VETERINARY SERVICE DISTRICTS

The Veterinary Service Districts (VSD), overseen by the Veterinary Service Commission (VSC), were developed in 1970 to provide rural areas of Manitoba with access to consistent and affordable veterinary care. Each Veterinary Service District is supported through annual provincial grants as well as local funding through the municipalities that they serve. This, in turn, supports the mixed animal veterinary practitioners that service each district. In total there are 27 Veterinary Service districts of which currently three have vacancies, and at least three others are actively recruiting veterinarians. The partnership of the VSD with provincial and local government has built a strong network of veterinary support since 1970. The VSC supports the VSD and is complementary to several of the recommendations in this brief. The VSC is looking at having more student interaction, including visits to WCVM to provide information, promote more uptake of the many programs available to MB students, and increase awareness of the opportunities in Manitoba. The MVMA is encouraging more mentorship activities by VSD veterinarians, and we are looking to divert some grant dollars into a pilot project to cover up to 50% of the cost for a first-year internship in a VSD practice.

### **4. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: MANITOBA AND WCVM IN THE 2020s**

#### THE FUTURE WITH DECREASED FUNDING

The Manitoba partnership represents 20% of the annual funding to WCVM provided by the provinces. If the Manitoba government decreases support, the loss of funding will have a potentially devastating impact on the college and its ability to meet its mandate to Western Canada without dramatically raising tuition or developing an entirely new structure. Maintaining existing partnerships and identifying potential funding options is critical to the WCVM's future. As well, the province's support will ensure the strength of existing partnerships with government agencies and industry stakeholders in the province of Manitoba.

The other significant impact would be on young Manitobans aspiring to become veterinarians. Reducing access to WCVM would force some young Manitobans to seek veterinary education in the US or overseas and incur unsustainable debt loads. These students are also less likely to return to Manitoba than WCVM graduates. According to Stats Canada 2018, veterinarians are not in the top ten wages for Canada which includes professions with similar years of education, including physicians, dentists, engineers and university professors. The average veterinarian earns \$92,000 a year. Veterinarians tend to make far less than their counterparts in human medicine, yet graduate with significant student loans which take many years to pay off.

## THE FUTURE WITH STABLE FUNDING

At the same time, we recognize that the government has an obligation to be as prudent as possible with the public purse and as such is right to demand that the maximum benefit is derived from any investment of tax dollars, including this investment in WCVM. The MVMA, therefore, has crafted a set of recommendations designed to enhance the power of this investment.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO WCVM

### i) Rural Initiative Seats

The WCVM's current admission focus on high academic achievement does not consider the student's background. Use of academic achievement as the sole qualifier for interview selection potentially filters out students who are academically proficient and have a rural or food animal background.

The MVMA has proposed to the WCVM that a portion of the 15 seats per year are 'ear-marked' for students with an animal production background. The MVMA suggests letters of reference from a local veterinarian confirming that the student has spent a significant amount of time in a rural practice, with exposure to the lifestyle accompanying of this type of practice. Additionally, the MVMA suggests letters of recommendation from members of the community showing the applicant's commitment to the community (4-H, Pony Club, Cattlemans, Young Leaders etc.).

### ii) Mentorship program and Beyond

The MVMA proposes to the WCVM that the mentorship program (training the mentee and the mentor) be expanded and/or integrated into the Manitoba government STEP program to allow students access to mentors and to receive mentee training while participating in the STEP program. This mentorship program will help build essential ties between the student and their mentor veterinarians during their summer studies in rural Manitoba. The WCVM is encouraged to extend their mentor training through online, web-based services to the veterinarians of Manitoba, particularly those participating in the government-funded STEP program. This inclusion of Manitoba veterinarians would create an excellent synergy between the program offered from the province and the WCVM.

### iii) Dedicated access to WCVM resources

The MVMA proposes to the WCVM that the college establishes and provides more structured and direct consulting services to veterinarians working in Manitoba. Manitoba veterinarians benefit from a vibrant relationship with the WCVM. A more structured consulting service would ensure that all veterinarians, and in particular veterinarians in rural and isolated settings, are provided with direct consulting access to the WCVM resources including continuing education and specialist consulting resources.

iv) Pathology service support and reciprocity

The MVMA proposes to the WCVI that the college continue to seek and formalize support for current and future education, training and pathologist relief services to Manitoba agriculture and veterinary diagnostic laboratory at the University of Manitoba. The WCVI can play an important role in providing residency program support for veterinarians working and practicing veterinary pathology in Manitoba through this vital connection to the WCVI.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MANITOBA GOVERNMENT

i) Collaborative Negotiation of the New Interprovincial Agreement

The MVMA requests the maintenance of the current level of funding to the WCVI for the duration of the next agreement. The MVMA suggests the government engage with all stakeholders of veterinary medicine in the province of Manitoba, particularly with veterinary professionals through the MVMA, for future funding reviews.

ii) Improvement of the STEP program funding model

The STEP program is a successful initiative of the Manitoba government, allowing for exposure of young veterinary students to rural veterinary medicine in Manitoba. There is concern from the students and the participating veterinarians regarding the way the funding is provided each spring. There is ambiguity about when and if the funding for the program will be renewed each spring. As such, it is difficult for students and veterinarians to make commitments for summer job positions that depend on the funding. In some cases, students could be left without employment, with little notice, due to the timing of the provincial budget announcement. The MVMA proposes that the government consider approval of STEP funding one year in advance to ensure that the participating veterinarians can confidently offer summer student employment based on the opportunity for funding support.

iii) Student loan relief and tax incentives

Student loan debt is a significant concern for graduating veterinarians. Most Canadian graduating veterinarians leave school with \$70,000-\$125,000 in student debt (Canada student loans, Provincial student loans and lines of credit) amassed over the 6-8 years of university required to attain a DVM degree. The repayment of this debt affects the student's decision to seek employment. Most students seek higher wages which are offered in small animal practice and typically in larger population centers.

The MVMA proposes that the Manitoba government consider a tax incentive program for up to 5 years post DVM graduation. This option would allow students to retain more of their after-tax income, which would allow for repayment of debt and investment in Manitoba by these young professionals.

The MVMA also proposes that the government consider a student loan relief program for all veterinarians coming to Manitoba. The loan relief program would be best instituted in a staged manner, such that veterinarians staying longer in the province receive increasing relief. A loan relief program offers an excellent incentive to attract and retain veterinarians to Manitoba

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MANITOBA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

### MVMA Student and Early Career Engagement Initiative

- Work with the WCVM and Manitoba government to improve recruitment and retention of veterinarians to Manitoba through partnerships discussed above.
- The MVMA will fund 10-15 WCVM veterinary students to attend the CenCan Veterinary Conference in Winnipeg yearly for the next five years. The goal of this initiative is to introduce and engage veterinary students to the careers and lifestyle offered to them in Manitoba. This will be an opportunity for the MVMA, Manitoba government, CFIA and practicing veterinarians in Manitoba to showcase the province and opportunities for students following graduation.
- The MVMA will look at forming a student and early career engagement committee within the MVMA to promote Manitoba veterinary careers to students within the WCVM and grassroots at the high school level, to oversee admissions policies from Manitoba, to work collaboratively with the Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Advanced Education and Training to address concerns and initiatives between the Manitoba veterinary profession and the WCVM, to create a universal job posting site for Manitoba which is promoted and easily accessible, to initiate any other mandate of the MVMA relating to training, recruitment, mentorship and support of veterinary medical careers in Manitoba.
- The MVMA will discuss developing an externship program collaboratively with the Manitoba government, WCVM and practicing veterinarians in Manitoba
- The MVMA should develop a buddy/mentor system for veterinary students (possibly through the STEP program) and early career veterinarians. The goal will be to provide access to a mentor veterinarian that is not associated with their practice that can assist in guidance and familiarize the mentee with the Manitoba Veterinary community, MVMA and government of Manitoba.

## **LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

1. Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
2. Dr. John Campbell – Western Canadian Beef Cattle Surveillance Network
3. Dairy Farmers of Manitoba
4. Dr. Keri Hudson-Reykdal – The Rural Perspective from a Mixed Animal Practitioner
5. Mr. Wab Kinew, Leader of the Official Opposition
6. Keystone Agricultural Producers
7. Manitoba Beef Producers
8. Manitoba Chicken Producers
9. Manitoba Turkey Producers
10. Prairie Diagnostic Services Inc
11. Western Manitoba Pre-Veterinary Medical Association





CANADIAN VETERINARY  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DES MÉDECINS VÉTÉRINAIRES

March 4, 2019

Honourable Kelvin Goertzen  
168 Legislative Building  
450 Broadway  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Via e-mail: [minedu@leg.gov.mb.ca](mailto:minedu@leg.gov.mb.ca)

**RE: funding to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM)**

To the Honourable Minister Goertzen:

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), federally incorporated in 1948 by an Act of Parliament, represents 7,400 members from across Canada, including all licensed veterinarians in Manitoba. Furthermore, the CVMA accounts for 7,850 affiliated Registered Veterinary Technicians. The CVMA is the national and international voice for Canada's veterinarians, providing leadership and advocacy for veterinary medicine. We also provide the North-American veterinary college accreditation for all Canadian colleges, including the WCVM, and are advocates for adequate investment in veterinary education across Canada.

The CVMA thanks the Manitoba Government for its long-standing investment in veterinary education. It is our understanding that your government is currently reviewing Manitoba's contribution to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. The CVMA urges you to maintain or increase the number of seats you currently fund in order to prevent a shortage of quality veterinary services in your province.

Veterinarians make essential contributions to the health and well-being of agricultural food-producing animals, companion animals and wildlife. The work of veterinarians contributes significantly to public and ecosystem health and to healthy economies. Manitoba raises a large number of food-producing animals that enter the human food chain. Animal health and wellbeing and effective management of diseases contribute to food quality, food safety and public health. From an economic perspective, veterinarians foster domestic sales, exports and employment, either directly or indirectly.

.../2

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CanadianVeterinaryMedicalAssociation



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CVMAACMV



@cvma.acmv

According to the most recent Canadian pet population survey conducted by Kynetec on behalf of the Canadian Animal Health Institute (CAHI), 61% of households in Manitoba own at least one dog or cat. These owners need a small or mixed animal veterinary practitioner to provide care for their pet. Such care contributes to public health and safety by controlling pet overpopulation and providing rabies vaccination. Overall, veterinary practices that serve food-animal production, companion animals and wildlife provide for the well-being of Manitobans and all Canadians.

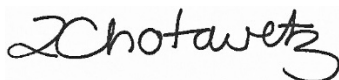
In order to protect the aforementioned benefits to society, top quality veterinary education and a sufficient number of veterinarians are required. Canada's need for veterinary services is anticipated to rise as a result of growing export markets and a new national action plan to ensure proper antimicrobial stewardship requiring veterinary oversight of all antimicrobial use. An increase rather than a decrease of investment in veterinary education is thus required.

For over half a century, the Western College of Veterinary Medicine has proven its expertise in educating veterinarians. Beyond this invaluable service, the WCVM provides for post graduate and specialist training programs, research in biomedical and veterinary sciences, clinical and diagnostic services, continuing education, public extension education and training support for veterinary technology students. These are all services critical to veterinary care. In summary, adequate funding is needed to meet a growing demand for veterinary services that ensure animal health, public health, ecosystem health and the well-being of all Canadians.

The CVMA thanks you for considering the above and would like to appeal to you to maintain or increase the funding to students at Manitoba's at WCVM.

Sincerely,

Dr. Terri Chotowetz



CVMA President

cc: Dr. Jonas Watson President, Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association  
Dr. Doug Freeman, Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

JaR:TC/nn

January 21, 2019

Dr. Keri Hudson Reykdal  
Hudson Reykdal Veterinary Services  
Box 10  
Ashern, Manitoba  
ROC OEO

Dear Dr. Hudson Reykdal,

This letter is in response to your request for information concerning our Western Canadian Beef Cattle Surveillance Network study. This project was primarily funded by the Canadian Cattlemen's Association through the Beef Cattle Research Council. However, in addition significant funding was obtained from other sources including Saskatchewan Agriculture, Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association, and Alberta Beef Producers. Although the funding included significant participation of Manitoba veterinarians and producers, we were unable to find opportunities to pursue research funding from within Manitoba itself.

Animal health monitoring and surveillance programs provide critical information to key stakeholders in both industry and government in order to assist with the management of various disease risks. Diseases in the beef cattle industry and even the threat of disease can have significant negative impacts on the economic viability of beef operations, animal welfare, food safety, public health and the environment. In many cases, policy makers in both industry and government are forced to make decisions about mitigating various risks with very limited available data. Animal health surveillance systems can provide objective evidence of the prevalence or freedom from specific disease hazards, which may support trade and market access of beef cattle and beef products from Canada to other parts of the world.

Surveillance systems also provide quantitative evidence of the impact of management decisions and management practices on our beef operations and the extent to which producers are adopting practices such as animal welfare practices or health management practices. The estimates of production parameters that are established through surveillance may help to prioritize investment in research and risk management. The importance of animal health monitoring and surveillance systems has been recognized in Canada with the formation of the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System which is an initiative of the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council and also includes broad based collaborative support of industry and governments. All of these partners recognize the importance of animal health surveillance systems and have a shared national vision to have effective and integrated animal health surveillance in Canada.

Overall, thirteen full surveys on various topics, four follow-up surveys and 3 quick fact sheets were distributed to participants of the surveillance network. As part of the surveillance network, 2 biological sample collections which collected samples of blood and feces of approximately 20 cows per herd were

undertaken in 2014 and 2016. These herds were tested for the presence of antibodies to *Mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis* (Johne's disease), *Neospora caninum*, and bovine leukosis virus. In addition, in a subsample of the herds, samples were collected from breeding bulls in 2015 to test for reproductive diseases and fecal samples were obtained from a sample of calves in 2016 to test for parasites. Approximately 17-20 herds from Manitoba participated at various times throughout the project.

The Beef Cattle Research Council has renewed the funding for this project for another 5 years and the project has been expanded to a national scale. We are currently working on recruiting herds within the province of Manitoba and across the rest of Canada. This project is one example of the many beef cattle projects that are carried out at WCVM that provide applied scientific information that can be used by stakeholders in the beef industry across Western Canada including the province of Manitoba. Scientific papers are currently being published and more results will be released as they become available.

Thanks for your interest in the project. If I can be of any assistance or answer any questions you may have about the project, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Dr. John Campbell  
Professor  
Dept. of Large Animal Clinical Sciences  
Western College of Veterinary Medicine

January 17, 2019

Honorable Kelvin Goertzen  
Minister of Education and Training  
168 Legislative Building  
450 Broadway  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8  
Email: [minedu@leg.gov.mb.ca](mailto:minedu@leg.gov.mb.ca)

**Re: Funding to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine**

Dear Minister Goertzen,

Dairy Farmers of Manitoba (DFM) is concerned with any proposed cuts to the funding of student seats at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) in Saskatoon. We understand the government is considering cutting funding by the equivalent of 5 students, dropping to 10 from 15 students per year.

DFM's position is that any reduction in the number of seats available to Manitoba students at the WCVM would have a significant negative impact for the dairy sector and other animal agriculture sectors. This is especially concerning at a time where we are seeing market growth in the province and therefore farmers are increasing their herd size to respond. In addition, with our New Entrant Program successfully adding new farmers to the province, we need to ensure they have vets available to them.

DFM strongly encourages the Province of Manitoba to look at ways to increase its funding of student seats at the WCVM. The partnership that Manitoba has with the WCVM is the most cost-effective way to collaborate and create the critical mass required to host a world-class veterinarian college – and to produce quality vets for Manitoba. To reduce funding at this time will only exacerbate an already critical shortage of mixed practice veterinarians for the dairy industry and could potentially impact animal welfare practices and our public trust with consumers.

The dairy sector is facing significant pressures to enhance its use of rural large animal veterinarians based on two important issues. First, there are global efforts to manage growing concerns related to the overuse of medically important antimicrobials and the very real concerns related to the rise in antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The AMR concerns are heightening the need for more prudent dispensing and use of these important medicines. It is therefore requiring our dairy farmers to seek veterinarian prescriptions for many important medicines that previously were available without the need for veterinary services, i.e. over the counter purchases. According to Health Canada requirements, dairy farmers must have a valid client patient relationship (VCPR) in order to access certain veterinary products.



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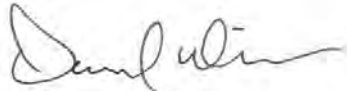
Dairy Farmers of Manitoba is committed to producing milk according to the highest standards of quality and is totally financed by and represents all dairy farmers in the province.

Secondly, the dairy industry, like other animal agriculture sectors continues to be wrongly targeted by the mainstream and social media regarding our animal welfare practices. The dairy industry has responded with its own national assurance program called the proAction program. Through proAction, Canadian dairy farmers collectively demonstrate responsible stewardship of their animals and the environment, sustainably producing high-quality, safe, and nutritious food for consumers. As a result, dairy farmers are looking for closer and more intimate relationships with their local veterinarians to maintain and enhance our social responsibility. We appreciate the Province of Manitoba's support for DFM to advance the proAction program in Manitoba.

While these types of pressures are leading to increasing demands for large animal veterinarian services, we see current vet services are critically short in supply in many rural dairy production areas. Already the veterinarian services sector is uncompetitive in many rural communities where there is only a single option for the provision of services. It is essential that animal welfare not be impacted by these service levels.

Our hope is that you see any reduction in the number of seats available to Manitoba students at the WCVM would have a significant negative impact for the dairy sector and other animal agriculture sectors and that you would take this into consideration when finalizing your funding decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Wiens", written in a cursive style.

David Wiens  
Chair, Dairy Farmers of Manitoba

Cc: Honorable Ralph Eichler, Minister of Agriculture

## THE RURAL PERSPECTIVE FROM A MIXED ANIMAL PRACTITIONER

Veterinary clinics in rural areas rely on the animal production industry and pet owners for their income. Farmers and ranchers in this province are accustomed to prices for services that are well below the average of other western provinces. These low prices create a difficult situation for rural practices that want to grow and build a thriving business. It is well known throughout the industry, that small animal business owners have more lucrative businesses.

With these facts in mind, it is easy to draw the conclusion that if Manitoba vet students do not receive a subsidized education, they will be unlikely to move to rural Manitoba. Without the current subsidy, their student debt load will be much higher. US vet students typically have debts in excess of \$167,000USD and struggle to repay loans, buy businesses and even support their families. If MB students have a similar level of debt on graduation, a move to rural MB would not be fiscally responsible or inviting and we will no longer attract the best applicants.

We believe that a focus on rural veterinarians is needed. Rural vets are best served by a well-rounded education in both small and large animals in order to effectively serve small communities and maintain a viable business. There are few practices in Manitoba that can support large animal vets only. Poultry, swine and dairy are the only areas that may be able to support specialized large animal veterinarians. At present in MB, there is one full time poultry veterinarian and 10 full time swine practitioners, as well as 4 vets doing some swine work in addition to regular case load. The majority of dairy vets also service a mixed animal clientele. Most of these industries are located in the southern third of the province which has a larger population base as opposed to the beef industry which is spread throughout the province.

Small rural communities are reliant on mixed animal practitioners who can serve their pet, horse and production animal needs. The beef industry in particular is very seasonal. Fall is very busy, with herd health and pregnancy diagnosis followed by calving season and bull evaluations in the spring, which tends to involve many sleepless nights. But summer and winter have very little work for beef herds that are out to pasture or on winter feeding grounds without easy access and no reason for handling. Therefore, it is essential to have the ability to work on all species to maintain a healthy business. Small animal services in these areas are also vital for controlling pet overpopulation as most rescues are filled with dogs from rural and remote areas. Horses, dogs and cats in rural areas are also much more likely to come into contact with infectious diseases such as rabies and parasites of concern to human health such as Echinococcus.



The majority of veterinarians express the need for work-life balance, quality of life and time with family. Gone are the days of the old school mentality of all work and no time with family. The new generation of vets are focused on a work-life balance which includes less on-call, mentorship, location of practice and salary. With suicide rates climbing in the profession, finding this balance is critical. Work-life balance is often difficult in rural areas due to large service area and small number of veterinarians per practice with 24/7 on call schedule. Larger practices, with more veterinarians need to cover a larger service area which means a large amount of time spent on the road travelling, which is also physically and mentally taxing. The rural logistics create a situation with no easy answers.

- Dr. Keri Hudson-Reykdal, Ashern, Manitoba



Province of Manitoba

LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

Johanna Rodger  
Box 69  
Argyle, MB R0C 0B0  
[jrodger@xplornet.ca](mailto:jrodger@xplornet.ca)

Dear Ms. Rodger:

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the Pallister government's proposal to cut the number veterinary school seats. I share your concerns with this move and the long term impacts on animal welfare and front line services for animal owners.

Veterinarians are in demand in Manitoba, and one of the best ways to ensure we meet that demand is by increasing access to education and training. The Pallister government's cuts will hurt rural communities and farmers in particular who rely on veterinary services to keep their livestock healthy and their businesses operating smoothly.

My staff have noted these changes and will continue to monitor them going forward. When the House resumes in the spring we will be able to question the Premier and the Minister of Agriculture on these cuts. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if you learn anything new as it could help us in this work.

I appreciate your thoughts on this important issue.

Miigwech (thank you),

Wab Kinew  
Leader of the Official Opposition  
Province of Manitoba

*P.S.: If you have a desire to push this forward through the media please let us know. All the best in 2019!*

## **KAP annual meeting 2019 resolutions**

### **Maintenance of service roads for access to fields**

KAP will lobby the Government of Manitoba to upgrade and maintain service roads where access roads have been closed due to Manitoba government policy.

### **Class 1 licence for farm use**

KAP will request that the Government of Manitoba create and implement a Class 1 (semi-trailer) licence for farmers to harmonize with the Saskatchewan government.

### **Railways**

KAP, with assistance from the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, will lobby the national railways to continue their efforts to provide dual rail lines in order to prevent the collisions that occur on shared single lines.

KAP will continue to work with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Government of Canada to make rail transportation a priority, ensuring that financial assistance from the federal government is available to ensure farm commodities can get to market.

### **Movement of farm machinery and equipment**

KAP will work with the various provincial government departments to develop a document and/or website that explains in simple language the new and existing regulations that apply to the movement of farm equipment, machinery and commodities.

### **Living Labs**

KAP will approach Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to have a role in the strategic direction of the Living Labs project to ensure farmers have the option and ability to perform best management practices which directly address the needs outlined in the Paris Climate Accord and the UN's IPCC-SR15 report.

### **Drainage, retention and irrigation**

KAP will lobby the Government of Manitoba to remove compensation requirements for Class 3 to 5 wetlands for projects where the water is entirely maintained and stored within the project, to then later be used as an irrigation source.

KAP will urge the Government of Manitoba to reduce or remove the offsetting costs of draining class 3 wetlands.

### **Seed research and development**

KAP will lobby Agriculture and Agri-food Canada to continue to research, develop and finish wheat varieties that set the standards in the milling industry.

### **Grain dryer certification**

KAP will continue to lobby the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Manitoba Infrastructure and Manitoba Agriculture to provide clarity to the interpretation and application of the Canadian Standards Association regulations so that producers have access to both new and used grain dryers, as well as expedited grain dryer certifications in Manitoba.

### **Expanding natural gas capacity**

KAP will develop a plan with key industry stakeholders to expand natural gas capacity in rural Manitoba in order to provide economic and competitive benefits to producers, the agricultural sector and Manitoba as a whole.

### **Wild boar population in Manitoba**

KAP will lobby the Government of Manitoba to direct resources that will identify and eradicate wild boar populations because these animals have the potential to spread African swine disease into Manitoba's pork industry.

### **Veterinary training for Manitoba residents**

KAP will meet with the provincial minister of education to encourage the Government of Manitoba to maintain its level of support funding for Manitoba students at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

KAP will discuss with the dean of the WCVM additional supports that would encourage graduates to return to Manitoba and establish or join large animal practices.

### **Cereal genetic funding**

KAP will lobby the Government of Canada to do further research on a point-of-delivery check-off system, in place of trailing or end-point royalties, in order to fund seed variety development.

### **Cash Advance Program**

KAP will lobby commodity groups to work with the Government of Canada to allow innovative farms and value-added enterprises in Manitoba to access the interest-free Cash Advance Program, using an enhanced crop list similar to other provinces.

**Establishment of innovative farms and value-added enterprises**

KAP will lobby the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba to provide more resources to help innovative farms and value-added enterprises to get established in Manitoba.

**Road test for Class 1 licence**

KAP will lobby the Government of Manitoba and Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation to address the deficiency of instructors who give the road tests for Class 1 drivers' licences so that farm employees do not have to wait two months to get a test. By that time, seeding is over.



December 13, 2018

Honorable Kelvin Goertzen  
Minister of Education and Training  
168 - 450 Broadway  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8  
Email: [minedu@leg.gov.mb.ca](mailto:minedu@leg.gov.mb.ca)

**Re: Funding to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and meeting request**

Dear Minister Goertzen,

Manitoba Beef Producers (MBP) is writing to voice our industry's concerns with respect to any proposed cuts to the funding of student seats at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) in Saskatoon.

MBP is the primary voice of the province's beef industry, representing approximately 6,500 cattle producers. We are a non-profit organization with a producer-elected board consisting of 14 directors, each representing cattle producers in a specific region or district of Manitoba. Cattle producers represent the single largest livestock sector in Manitoba in terms of the number of individual producers involved.

The WCVM has a long and successful history of contributing to the growth of the livestock sector, and specifically the beef cattle sector in western Canada. The WCVM began in 1963 as a collaborative partnership between the four western provinces to collectively support the establishment of a regional veterinary college. The initial deal provided Manitoba with an allocation of 10 students to be placed by students coming from Manitoba. Over time as the college grew, Manitoba's allocation grew to 15 student seats at the college.

It is MBP's position that any reduction in the number of seats available to Manitoba students at the WCVM would be a huge step backwards and would have devastating impacts for the beef sector and other animal agriculture sectors. This is especially concerning at a time where your colleague, the Minister of Agriculture has announced your government's goal to grow the beef cattle herd.

Currently the beef cattle sector is facing significant pressures to enhance its use of and engagement with rural large animal veterinarians. These pressures are two-fold. First, there are global efforts to manage growing concerns related to the overuse of medically important antimicrobials and the very real concerns related to the rise in dangerous antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The AMR concerns are heightening the need for more prudent dispensing and use of these important medicines and it is requiring our producers to seek veterinarian

MANITOBA BEEF PRODUCERS

220-530 Century Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3H 0Y4

[www.mbbeef.ca](http://www.mbbeef.ca) E [info@mbbeef.ca](mailto:info@mbbeef.ca) P 204-772-4542 F 204-774-3264

MANITOBA CATTLE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

prescriptions for many important medicines that previously were available without the need for veterinary services, i.e. over the counter purchases. According to Health Canada requirements, producers must have a valid client patient relationship (VCPR) in order to access certain veterinary products.

Secondly, the beef industry, like other animal agriculture sectors continues to be targeted by misinformation in the mainstream and social media regarding our animal welfare practices. The beef cattle industry has responded with its own assurance program called the Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+) program. Producers are aware of their social responsibility and are increasingly looking for closer and more intimate relationships with their local veterinarians. On a related note, it has been the practice of the provincial government that in order to access agricultural policy framework funding for certain beneficial management practices to support initiatives under the VBP program that producers have been required to have a VCPR.

These types of pressures are leading to increasing demands for large animal veterinarian services, this at a time when these services are already in critically short supply in many rural beef production areas. Already the veterinarian services sector is uncompetitive in many rural communities where there is only a single option for the provision of services. It is essential that animal welfare not be impacted by these service levels.

At this time it is MBP's position that the Province of Manitoba should be looking to increase its funding of student seats at the WCVM rather than looking to reduce funding. The partnership that Manitoba has with the WCVM has proven to be very successful and the most cost-effective way to collaborate and create the critical mass required to host a world-class veterinarian college. To reduce funding at this time will only cause an already critical shortage of mixed practice veterinarians to become even more dangerous, and potentially impact animal welfare practices and the public trust required to grow the beef herd and to meet your government's stated objective to grow the beef herd.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of these concerns, and MBP requests the opportunity to meet with you at your convenience to further explain the importance of this funding being continued or enhanced. Please contact our General Manager Brian Lemon at [blemon@mbbeef.ca](mailto:blemon@mbbeef.ca) or (204) 772-4542 to organize the opportunity to meet.

Sincerely,



Tom Teichroeb  
President  
Manitoba Beef Producers

Cc: Hon. Ralph Eichler, Minister of Agriculture  
Cc: Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association





February 11, 2019

Honourable Kelvin Goertzen  
Minister of Education and Training  
168 – 450 Broadway  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

**Re: Proposed decrease in funding of provincial seats at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine**

Dear Minister Goertzen,

Manitoba Chicken Producers (“MCP”) would like to express our concern with the proposed cutbacks to the subsidization of provincial seats for graduating veterinarian students in conjunction with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

MCP represents 145 registered producers in both the hatching egg and chicken industry. Manitoba is home to 4 hatcheries, two federal processors, and four provincial processors which are also stakeholders in our chicken industry. As an industry, we contribute over 3,700 jobs, \$300M in GDP, and pay over \$100M in taxes. Despite these contributions, there is currently only one poultry veterinarian practicing within Manitoba.

Our industry has invested millions of dollars in food safety, animal care, and sustainability. While we maintain these programs in our hatcheries, processors and on farm, at the grass roots level, poultry veterinarian services are a major component of our ability to do so. Moving forward, with increased oversight required for anti-microbial use, our industry’s dependency on a strong veterinary presence will increase, not diminish.

The proposal to decrease funding of provincial seats at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine is of significant concern to our industry.

Our ability to maintain a vibrant industry that delivers a safe, healthy, and wholesome protein to our consumers is predicated on a commitment from all stakeholders, which in this case includes the Government of Manitoba facilitating the Western College of Veterinary Medicine to provide increased veterinary support to our industry.

Sincerely,

Jake Wiebe, Chair

Cc: Honourable Ralph Eichler, Minister, Manitoba Agriculture

*Dedicated to representing the needs of the hatching egg and chicken producers of Manitoba by providing leadership in maintaining a viable and stable chicken production industry.*

1357 Kenaston Blvd. Winnipeg MB R3P 2P2  
TEL: 204-489-4603 FAX: 204-488-1163  
E-mail: [chicken@chicken.mb.ca](mailto:chicken@chicken.mb.ca)  
Web: [www.chicken.mb.ca](http://www.chicken.mb.ca)



February 11, 2019

Honourable Kelvin Goertzen  
Minister of Education and Training  
168 – 450 Broadway  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister Goertzen:

The Manitoba Turkey Producers (MTP) would like to express our concern with the proposed cutbacks to the subsidization of provincial seats for graduating veterinarian students in conjunction with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

The turkey industry in Manitoba represents 55 farming families, along with a hatchery and local processor. The safety and sustainability of the poultry industry is very important to both the economy and consumers in our province. Currently, there is only one poultry veterinarian practicing within Manitoba, which is a troubling issue. We feel opportunities to entice graduating veterinarians to practice in Manitoba should at minimum be maintained. The proposal to decrease the incentives will result in negative impacts.

With increasing national and global attention on animal welfare, the turkey industry has begun to place further attention on the incorporation of on farm practices to ensure the proper care and handling of turkeys being raised within Canada. Items such as water treatment, feed, air quality and bedding management practices are essential for successful day to day operations in our industry. The proper humane methods of euthanasia are a critical part of an effective on-farm animal welfare program and the methods utilized must be done to minimize distress experienced by the animal. The mandatory national Turkey Farmers of Canada On Farms Program requires producer training for euthanasia by a certified veterinarian. This is one example of on-going increasing demands that require involvement of veterinarian assistance on our farms.

Other emerging areas of concern are farm antibiotic usage and environmental sustainability. Antimicrobial resistance in humans has resulted in the requirement for veterinarian prescriptions to utilize important medicines on farm. This requirement is another contributing factor that shows the increasing requirements for veterinarian professionals to assist producers with on farm demands.

Veterinarians provide not only direct animal services, but constructive one-on-one consultation for farmers. The increased pressures in the turkey industry and agriculture as a whole will only continue to rise in the future. Ensuring that all turkey production is adhering to the high quality standards is critical to the continued viability in the industry. Our producers strive to provide a high quality, safe and healthy product to the consumer. Manitoba Turkey Producers strongly urge your government to reconsider the stated intention to cut support by reducing the number of eligible seats assigned to Manitoba students at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. Our industry would view this as our government seeing animal agriculture as an industry of less importance to Manitoba's economy.

We thank your Department for considering our concerns and would offer to continue further discussion on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

Rachelle Brown  
Chair  
Manitoba Turkey Producers

cc: Honorable Ralph Eichler, Minister of Agriculture



**SASKATOON**  
52 Campus Drive  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5B4

Tel: (306) 966-7316  
Fax: (306) 966-7737

[www.pdsinc.ca](http://www.pdsinc.ca)

January 30, 2019

Dr. Keri Hudson Reykdal  
Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association  
1590 Inkster Blvd.  
Winnipeg, MB R2X 2W4

Dear Dr. Reykdal,

I understand the Manitoba legislature is reconsidering the amount of support it provides to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. As the CEO of Prairie Diagnostic Services, Inc. over the past 2+ years, I would like to share with you another perspective of the benefits this support provides not only the veterinary profession but animal and crop agricultural interests in Manitoba. It is critically important that decision makers are well aware that the funding to support a regional veterinary college in western Canada delivers much more return on this investment than just well-trained veterinarians.

Animal health diagnostics, disease surveillance and early warning of endemic and foreign animal disease threats, disease outbreak and food safety investigations, support for antimicrobial resistance mitigation programs, export market qualification (freedom from disease validation), feed quality and toxicologic investigations, as well as applied research into new diagnostic methodologies are just a few of many benefits that Prairie Diagnostic Services (PDS) and the Manitoba Veterinary Diagnostic Services Laboratory (MB VDS) provides the veterinary profession, public health agencies and agricultural customers across western Canada.

PDS continues to work very closely with MB VDS Lab to provide as robust and comprehensive service as possible with the limited resources available. Each Lab receives part of its operating revenue from provincial sources; however, these funds are inadequate to provide either Lab with the depth and breadth of support it needs. Neither laboratory can do all this alone. In my tenure as Lab Director at PDS, I have seen first hand how hard our Labs strive to deliver on their mandates and provide for their customers:

- veterinarians that serve all aspects of the profession,
- teaching support (both DVM and Graduate programs) at the WCVM,
- applied research partners at the WCVM and other western Canadian institutions
- livestock producers and corporate food animal agriculture businesses,
- feed mill operators and nutritionists,

- wildlife agencies,
- public health agencies, and
- the Ministries of Agriculture and Public Health in MB, SK, AB and BC.

The ability of PDS and of the MB VDS Labs to serve the diverse needs of its customers has become more challenging in recent years, as funding from public sources has either been static or reduced, while expenses continue to rise significantly.

To highlight a few of these challenges, I need only to reflect on the difficulty both Labs have in attracting and retaining highly skilled talent that is core to our operations – from pathologists to technologists. Neither PDS nor the MB VDS Lab can offer truly market competitive compensation packages, nor hire enough staff to effectively manage emergency (disease outbreak) situations, without compromising other services or creating substantial added stress for its workforce. Another important example is the difficulty both Labs have in investing in new equipment or IT infrastructure, which would otherwise enhance operations and streamline processes. Animal disease surveillance including but not limited to virtual real time syndromic monitoring for endemic disease threats, active involvement in food safety investigations and the ability to track antimicrobial resistance trends and support legislative changes to prescribing practices of antibiotics for animal use, are all critically important services to MB as they are to all other provinces. In their current state, neither Laboratory is in a secure, sustainable position to meet expectations. There is no reserve capacity; in fact, the MB VDS Laboratory is currently contracting for pathology services from PDS and is deeply engaged on a number of initiatives with PDS that will benefit both publically funded laboratories (assuming additional funding is made available).

So, what does all this have to do with the funding agreement that supports the Western College of Veterinary Medicine? A lot! Any downturn in funding of the WCVM will have a very direct and negative impact on PDS, and indirectly upon the MB VDS Lab and all Manitoba veterinary and agricultural interests. PDS is jointly owned by the Univ. of Saskatchewan (WCVM) and the Province of Saskatchewan. Its work and major decisions are overseen by a Board of Directors representing its owners, its customer base from across western Canada, and other business experts. If the WCVM is forced to cut programs because of a downturn in provincial funding, PDS will see a drop in the operational support it receives from WCVM. PDS will then be forced to retrench and reduce its support of western Canadian regional interests, and focus primarily on the needs of Saskatchewan veterinarians and farmers. In other words, the regional concept that underpins the WCVM also supports western Canadian veterinary and agricultural stakeholders that are dependent upon animal health diagnostics, surveillance and applied research capabilities. Here are a few interprovincial services and programs at risk and would likely be compromised if funding to WCVM - and hence support of PDS - is reduced:

- The inability to hire and retain adequate professional staff PDS will result in less support of veterinary pathology and microbiology teaching programs at WCVM. This would negatively impact all students at WCVM, including those from Manitoba.
- Current and future applied research programs at PDS will fail to deliver on the promise of new technologies for diagnostic applications, e.g. whole genome sequencing. All of

Western Canada will benefit from these advances, particularly those livestock operations in the Prairie Provinces.

- Reduced professional service support and/or more costly test fees for Manitoba veterinary and agricultural customers, e.g. Clinical pathology service and EIA testing are just two prominent areas where the MB VDS Lab has become dependent upon PDS support. Listed below are specific testing services and support that PDS has provided MB over the past three years.
- Inability of PDS to provide surge capacity for diagnostic testing to help MB manage future disease outbreaks. The MB VDS Lab sought additional support and PDS was willing and prepared to actively support the recent PED outbreak in Manitoba swine operations. It would not be in Manitoba's interest to compromise the established relationship and support it would need should there be another disease outbreak like this.
- Reduced collaboration between MB VDS Laboratory and PDS. Our friends in Winnipeg are currently looking to PDS for transfer and use of its Laboratory Information Management System and related electronic systems that will greatly enhance VDS operations. Similarly, PDS and MB would like to continue its collaborative efforts to create a more rapid and effective animal health intelligence network, but without adequate operational funding, both Labs will be forced to contract and reduce or stop work on such initiatives.

Below is a list of services PDS provided in the last year or so to support our colleagues in Winnipeg:

- 1) Management (testing, interpretation, reporting) of all MB Clinical Pathology submissions with the departure of their only Clinical Pathologist (hired by the Univ. of Calgary CVM). This contract was extended for another year while MB VDS sought a replacement. Now with a replacement on board, the contract has been extended yet again to cover absences of this individual.
- 2) Anatomic Pathology case support, following the retirement of an experienced Pathologist from MB VDS.
- 3) Provided MB VDS the costing model previously developed for PDS. PDS provided not only the software, but also on-site training, customized templates, and follow-up training and technical support at no charge.
- 4) PDS has trained selected VDS staff on the PDS Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), including on-site accessioning training.
- 5) PDS provided direct disease outbreak support and performed most of the testing needed to address an EIA outbreak in 2017.
- 6) PDS had prepared to provide support to MB in managing their recent PEDv outbreak. Although this plan was not implemented, PDS was prepared to receive and test >100 swine samples per day.
- 7) PDS has provided uncontrolled copies of PDS SOPs for particular needs at VDS, e.g. Anthrax submissions.
- 8) PDS has provided insight and experience on operational and facility issues, e.g. hoist selection and maintenance.
- 9) PDS provides endemic and reportable disease surveillance data to VDS on a contractual basis.

Another way to look at the level of cooperation and support, and hence the value of interprovincial animal health diagnostic services, is to look at the actual PDS caseload coming from Manitoba sources and the value of these services and cooperative projects:

- In 2015-2016, there were 19,000 test requests for PDS coming from Manitoba. In 2017-2018, the volume of testing increased to 25,000 requests. Except for specific testing programs that are underwritten by SK Agriculture, Manitoba currently enjoys the same pricing for diagnostic testing as do customers in SK and other western provinces. If operational funds are cut to PDS by reduced support to WCVM, then PDS may be forced to add surcharges for out of province submissions. This is already the case when submissions are referred to the Ontario Animal Health Lab at the University of Guelph. The net result will be a substantial rise in diagnostic test fees and services that Manitoba has previously received at very competitive prices.
- The demand for PDS veterinary diagnostic services from Manitoba continues to increase yearly, as mentioned above. The data also reveal that since 2015, pre-tax revenue from Manitoba submissions are as follows:
  - 2015: \$250,000
  - 2016: \$280,000
  - 2017: \$360,000
  - 2018: \$370,000
  - This growth is occurring not because of marketing programs or sales promotions, but rather because there is a need – a demand for these testing services that either MB VDS is unable to provide due to capacity limitations, or are tests that are beyond their scope of testing (e.g. EIA, mycotoxin testing, etc.)
- There are enough Clinical Pathology and Surgical Pathology submissions from Manitoba to support one full time pathologist at PDS in terms of salary and benefits. The contracts between PDS and VDS, and between PDS and the pathologist performing the work, have both been renewed for another year. These contracts are upwards of \$200K per year.
- The PDS LIMS system took several years and nearly \$1MM to build. It is a state-of-the-art system that collects, stores and reports data. It can be easily queried for epidemiologic and research purposes. It allows PDS to report surveillance data to CAHSN (Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network) and produce notifiable disease reports to the Ministry of Agriculture in SK and MB in virtual real time. PDS is beginning discussions with the MB VDS Lab to transfer this technology to their Lab. PDS is willing to do this on a cost recovery basis, as all parties believe this enhanced capability will help build a better network of animal health intelligence data for western Canada. If PDS operating funds are cut, one recourse will be to fill the funding gap with revenue generated from the commercial sale of this industry leading, proprietary LIMS system.



To summarize, a healthy, well-supported Western College of Veterinary Medicine is as important to Manitoba as it is to the other western Canadian provinces. The benefits go well beyond the provision of trained veterinarians. Closely associated with and materially supported by the WCV, Prairie Diagnostic Services provides these same provinces with professional animal health diagnostic support above and beyond what their own provincial labs can provide. Any reduction in funding to WCV will similarly have a direct impact on the financial well-being of PDS. The net result for PDS will be a contraction of regional diagnostic and surveillance services, reduced inter-lab operational support, a compromise of the surge capacity needed during times of disease emergencies, an increase in costs for out of province customers, and force a more narrow focus on the needs of its primary investors.

As it has demonstrated in the past, a strong interprovincial commitment and robust funding model will help sustain WCV and its associated service provisions into the future. Let's not compromise what has taken years to develop and shows so much promise for the future of animal health and welfare in western Canada. Eroding this alliance to meet short term financial goals will have far reaching long term consequences. I fear that Manitoba will lose far more than it is aware of. Reducing veterinary student seats not only compromises the veterinary profession in the province, but doing so creates further hardship for those that depend upon well trained vets and access to cutting edge diagnostic testing on a timely and affordable basis. High quality veterinary educational programs, research and diagnostics and direct access to the expertise associated with these institutions, delivers value to Manitoban constituents every day. I believe it is a big mistake to compromise an effective and growing interprovincial relationship, which seeks to foster even deeper collaboration and support for the veterinary profession, livestock and poultry producers, and for public health interests in Manitoba.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl K. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Carl K. Johnson, AM, DVM  
Prairie Diagnostic Services, Inc.  
52 Campus Drive  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5B4 CANADA

February 7th, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to you on behalf of Brandon University's Western Manitoba Pre-Veterinary Medical Association (WMPVMA). The WMPVMA consists of 25 pre-veterinary students who hope to attend the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM). We are very concerned to hear that the Provincial Government is considering cutting funding to the WCVM by funding only 10 seats for Manitobans, reduced from the current 15 seats.

In Canada, aspiring Manitoban vet students can ONLY apply to the WCVM. The admissions process is incredibly competitive, in fact only 26% of Manitobans who applied for the 2018-19 year were accepted (1). Clearly, reducing available seats would make getting accepted even more challenging. Ultimately, there will be even fewer veterinarians to fill job postings in a province that is already facing a shortage in small, mixed and large animal veterinary professionals. Additionally, as the province has expressed a desire to grow the agriculture industry, that is not possible without more large animal veterinarians.

The WCVM needs provincial support to continue educating veterinarians and so do veterinary students, as the cost of veterinary school is an extreme expense. Currently, tuition is about \$10,000 a year, not including supplies and living costs, however tuition for non-subsidized seats, of which five are being offered next year, will be \$60,000 a year (1). This is an expense that many intelligent, motivated individuals could not manage. Many veterinary students already struggle with debt and the proposed changes would only exacerbate the current debt issue. These additional financial strains would also make it more likely for new veterinarians to seek work in metropolitan areas rather than returning to rural Manitoba to practice where incomes are lower, however demand for veterinary services is high.

Canada has a large agricultural industry and most Canadians own a pet. In fact, the population of companion animals in Canada has increased by about 10% in the last decade (2). Additionally, the livestock industry continues to see growth with a 7.0% and 5.6% increase for beef and dairy respectively (3). Clearly, there is a high need for veterinarians in order to care for the many animals in our society. Not only are veterinarians critical for animal health but human health as well. Therefore, they play an integral role in the One Health initiative which is a multi-discipline effort to attain optimal health for people, animals and the environment (4). These days there is an increasing level of contact between humans and domestic and wild animals thus increasing the risk for exposure to new viruses, bacteria and other pathogens. Overall, education for Manitoban vet students must continue to be supported in order to ensure a healthy society for all of its members.

We ask that you please raise these proposed changes as an extreme concern with your Provincial Government officials, sign and share the petition linked below and advocate for the current 15 funded spots at the WCVM to remain! Please respond with your position on this issue to the WMPVMA.

Thank you for your support,

Sincerely,

The Western Manitoba Pre-Veterinary Medical Association

[https://www.change.org/p/brian-pallister-keep-the-15-manitoba-subsidized-seats-at-the-western-college-of-veterinary-medicine?recruiter=934370725&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=copylink&utm\\_campaign=tap\\_ba sic\\_share](https://www.change.org/p/brian-pallister-keep-the-15-manitoba-subsidized-seats-at-the-western-college-of-veterinary-medicine?recruiter=934370725&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=tap_ba sic_share)

Resources:

1. <https://admissions.usask.ca/veterinary-medicine.php#PreparingforVeterinaryMedicine>
2. <https://iloveveterinary.com/blog/veterinary-medicine-colleges-canada/>
3. <https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/pubs/2017-2018-annual-report.pdf>
4. <https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/Pages/One-Health94.aspx>

## Veterinary Services Commission Board

### Veterinary Services District Veterinary Clinics

#### Ashern Veterinary Clinic

Box 147  
Ashern MB R0C 0E0  
Phone: 204-768-9609  
Email: [ashernvet@gmail.com](mailto:ashernvet@gmail.com)

#### Boissevain Animal Clinic

Box 416  
Boissevain MB R0K 0E0  
Phone: 204-534-3212  
Fax: 204-534-6146

#### Dauphin Veterinary Clinic

Box 556  
Dauphin MB R7N 2V4  
Phone: 204-638-3044  
Fax: 204-638-7260

#### Vacant

Box 96  
Ethelbert MB R0L 0T0  
Phone: 204-572-4645

#### Fisher Veterinary Clinic

Box 149  
Fisher Branch MB R0C 0Z0  
Phone: 204-372-6034

#### Gladstone Veterinary Clinic

Box 538  
Gladstone MB R0J 0T0  
Phone: 204-385-2892  
Fax: 204-385-2021  
Email: [gladvet@mts.net](mailto:gladvet@mts.net)

#### Glenboro Veterinary Clinic

Box 69  
Glenboro MB R0K 0X0  
Phone: 204-827-2546  
Fax: 204-827-2010  
Email: [vets@mts.net](mailto:vets@mts.net)

#### Arborg Vet Hospital

Box 339  
Arborg MB R0C 0A0  
Phone: 204-376-2797  
Fax: 204-376-2091

#### Inter-Ridge Vet Clinic

Box 97  
Alonsa MB R0H 0A0

#### Lundar Veterinary Services

Box 354  
Lundar MB R0C 1X0  
Phone: 204-762-5425  
Fax: 204-762-5113  
Email: [vetlund@mts.net](mailto:vetlund@mts.net)

#### Minnedosa Veterinary Clinic

Box 429  
Minnedosa MB R0J 1E0  
Phone: 204-867-3917  
Fax: 204-867-5304  
Email: [mdsavet@mts.net](mailto:mdsavet@mts.net)

#### Morden Veterinary Clinic

Box 745  
Morden MB R6M 1A7  
Phone: 204-822-4333  
Fax: 204-822-4708

#### Brydges & Taylor Veterinary Hospital

Box 250  
Neepawa MB R0J 1H0  
Phone: 204-476-5677  
Fax: 204-476-2047  
Email: [thevets@mymts.net](mailto:thevets@mymts.net)

#### Pembina Valley Veterinary Clinic

Box 46  
Pilot Mound MB R0G 1P0  
Phone: 204-825-2759  
Fax: 204-825-2418  
Email: [pvvc@mts.net](mailto:pvvc@mts.net)

#### Roblin Veterinary Services

Box 935  
Roblin MB R0L 1P0  
Phone: 204-937-4623  
Fax: 204-937-2169

#### Russell & District Veterinary Clinic

Box 1302  
Russell MB R0J 1W0  
Phone: 204-773-3777  
Fax: 204-773-3935

#### St. Claude Veterinary Clinic

Box 430  
St. Claude MB R0G 1Z0  
Phone: 204-379-2374  
Fax: 204-379-2667  
Email: [stcvet@mts.net](mailto:stcvet@mts.net)

## Veterinary Services Commission Board

#### St. Pierre Veterinary Hospital

Box 100  
St. Pierre Jolys MB R0A 1V0  
Phone: 204-433-7956  
Fax: 204-433-3669

#### Shoal Lake Veterinary Clinic

Box 105  
Shoal Lake MB R0J 1Z0  
Phone: 204-759-2727  
Fax: 204-759-2233

#### Souris-Glenwood Veterinary Clinic

Box 476  
Souris MB R0K 2C0  
Phone: 204-483-2193  
Fax: 204-483-3654

#### South-Central Veterinary Clinic

Box 149  
Notre Dame MB R0G 1M0  
Phone: 204-248-2310  
Fax: 204-248-2522  
Email: [scvet@mts.net](mailto:scvet@mts.net)

#### Border Vet Animal Health Services

Melita MB R0M 1L0  
Phone: 204-522-8405  
Fax: 204-522-3819

#### Swan Valley Veterinary Clinic

Box 388  
Swan River MB R0L 1Z0  
Phone: 204-734-4565  
Fax: 204-734-9530

#### Killarney Veterinary Clinic

Box 398  
Killarney MB R0K 1G0  
Phone: 204-523-7225  
Fax: 204-523-4297

#### Virden Animal Hospital

Box 1390  
Virden MB R0M 2C0  
Phone: 204-748-3950  
Fax: 204-748-1252  
Email: [virdenanimalhospital@yahoo.ca](mailto:virdenanimalhospital@yahoo.ca)

#### Vita Veterinary Services

Box 239  
Vita MB R0A 2K0  
Phone: 204-425-3264  
Fax: 204-425-3132  
Email: [vitavet@mymts.net](mailto:vitavet@mymts.net)

#### Ste. Rose Veterinary Clinic

Box 763  
Ste. Rose du Lac MB R0L 1S0  
Phone: 204-447-2701  
Fax: 204-447-3189

### Employment Opportunities in VSD's in Manitoba

Currently, one of the 27 VSD clinics is vacant and several are staffed by veterinarians on a part time basis. At least one clinic is looking for an additional veterinarian. Several clinics have veterinarians wanting or soon wanting to retire.

# Practising Veterinary Medicine in Rural Manitoba



THE VETERINARY SERVICES COMMISSION BOARD



## Introduction

In 1970, Dr. Jack McPhedran started the Rural Manitoba Animal Hospital Program. In partnership with local municipal governments, veterinary districts were formed and veterinary hospitals built. The plan is one-of-a-kind in western Canada and is still in place.

The key elements are:

- to build these hospitals across Manitoba at a distance of approximately 60 miles apart so all producers would have access to veterinary care
- the veterinary hospital is maintained by a district board
- in exchange for use of the facilities, a veterinarian will agree to not charge more than the province wide pre-arranged maximum fee schedule and agree to provide regular and emergency service
- cost of operating and maintaining the clinics is shared by the province and the municipalities
- the Veterinary Service Commission is an independent body that was formed to oversee the veterinary districts

Over the years, 32 hospitals or clinics were built. There are currently 27 veterinary service district (VSD) clinics. These clinics are found in the western part of the province and the Interlake as well as at Vita and St. Pierre. The 27 veterinary service districts are complemented by 52 private veterinary clinics or practices. Not all private practices are based in Manitoba and not all are full veterinary hospitals. The private practices are mostly

located around major centers, areas of highly concentrated livestock and a few near where the veterinarian was either raised or calls home.

The objectives and duties of a rural veterinary services district board are:

- to render financial or other assistance to enable and encourage veterinarians to practise veterinary medicine and surgery in the district, at uniform fees throughout the district, as prescribed in the regulations. This assistance is accomplished by the Province providing a matching grant based on municipal contributions to a maximum of \$20,000 per VSD. This is referred to as the Veterinary District Grant (VDG). In 1993 - 94 the province reduced their contribution to 95% of the municipal contribution. In 2014, most districts received the maximum of \$19,000;
- to maintain, equip and upgrade district animal hospitals to the standards prescribed in the regulations;
- to enable veterinarians to confer for the interchange of information on matters relating to veterinary medicine and surgery;
- through the imparting of information and instruction and such other means as may be found necessary or advisable, to prevent the spread of diseases among animals.

## Manitoba Provincial Contributions

Manitoba provides approximately \$500,000/year in matching grants to VSD's.

Currently Manitoba pays for 15 seats at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in each of the four years of vet school. A new agreement between the provinces and the WCVM is negotiated every few years on the costs of those seats. *The current cost is in excess of \$80,000.00 per seat.* According to The department of Advanced Education, Veterinary Medicine is the most expensive program that is offered to Manitoba students.

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development encourages veterinary students to return to the province's rural practices through The Veterinary Science Scholarship Act. *There are currently 13 veterinary students under the program in 2013/14, each of whom received \$1,125.*

In 2005, an additional grant, the Large Animal Veterinary Retention Program was started to encourage Manitoba students to return to Manitoba rural veterinary practice. The program is funded annually at \$50,000/year. *The program gives 10 eligible Manitoba students in the 3<sup>d</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years of their studies \$5,000, which is forgivable at \$5000/yr for each 12 months spent working in a Manitoba rural practice.*

From 1998 to 2011, Manitoba provided the Veterinary Technical Enhancement Grant (VTEG) for VSD clinics to purchase essential pieces of equipment for treating food producing animals. *The program put over \$3 million in equipment and clinic upgrades over the life of the program.*



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

**SUBJECT: Greenview Tall Buttercup and Burdock Incentive Program**  
**SUBMISSION TO: AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD**      **REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION**  
**MEETING DATE: April 4, 2023**      **CAO: MANAGER: SK**  
**DEPARTMENT: AGRICULTURE**      **DIR: PRESENTER: SK**  
**STRATEGIC PLAN: Governance**      **LEG:**

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION:**

**Provincial – N/A**

**Council Bylaw/Policy – N/A**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**MOTION 1: That the Agricultural Service Board approve of the inclusion of Common Tansy, Scentless Chamomile, Ox-Eye Daisy, White Cockle, and Common Toadflax in the current Tall Buttercup and Burdock Incentive Program to the current 2023 budgetary maximum of \$16,500.**

**BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:**

In 2018, Greenview established the Tall Buttercup and Burdock Incentive Program. This funding is meant to encourage landowners to control their infestations specific to these two species, which have presented challenges for the Department. While these has been some uptake of the funding and staff work hard to promote the program, this budget line is not utilized as often as Administration would like it to be.

In reviewing species of concern within Greenview, Scentless Chamomile, Common Tansy, Ox-Eye Daisy, White Cockle and Common Toadflax are weeds that while present, are not at such high populations as to be cost prohibitive to include within the program. These species are of high concern to the department due to their seed longevity and seed production capabilities. Similar to tall buttercup and burdock, these species are frequently seen in pasture and hayland.

In proposing inclusion of these species, Administration hopes to increase the number of landowners taking advantage of the program to budgetary maximum.

<b>Program Actuals</b>	
<b>2018</b>	\$1,500.00
<b>2019</b>	\$300.00
<b>2020</b>	\$1,119.91
<b>2021</b>	\$1,980.00
<b>2022</b>	\$2,135.01

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**BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. The benefit of the recommended action is that more species of concern would be included within the list of weeds that can be covered by the Incentive Program.

---

**DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. One potential disadvantage of the recommended action is that the response from landowners will be such that the budgetary maximum is reached and some landowners may need to wait until 2024 to take advantage of the program.

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**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

**Alternative #1:** The Agricultural Service Board may choose to leave the program as it currently stands. Administration does not recommend this as the funding has not been maximized over the 5 years since the programs inception.

---

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:**

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion in 2023. Should the program increase in popularity, the budgetary maximum may need to be reassessed.

---

**STAFFING IMPLICATION:**

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

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**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:**

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

**INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT**

Inform

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL**

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

**PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC**

Inform - We will keep you informed.

---

**FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:**

After the Board has informed Administration as to their decision, Administration will move forward with any program and communications required, should any change to current programming result.

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**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- Seed Longevity, Production and Greenview Population Distribution



Infestations by Species				
Species	Private	Greenview	SEED VIABILITY	Seeds Produced
CANADA THISTLE	1898	1400	1-5 yrs	1,500 – 5,000
TALL BUTTERCUP	753	3	2-4 yrs	250
<b>SCENTLESS CHAMOMILE</b>	<b>589</b>		<b>15-30 yrs</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
PERENNIAL SOW THISTLE	225		3 yrs	4,000
<b>OX-EYE DAISY</b>	195		<b>2-39 yrs</b>	<b>26,000</b>
MEADOW HAWKWEED*	109	49	up to 7 yrs	60-1,500
<b>COMMON TANSY</b>	86		<b>25+ yrs</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>BULL THISTLE</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3 yrs</b>	
<b>YELLOW TOADFLAX</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>up to 10 yrs</b>	<b>50,000</b>
ORANGE HAWKWEED	11		up to 7 yrs	50-750
<b>WHITE COCKLE</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>3 yrs</b>	<b>26,000</b>
<b>BURDOCK</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>1-3 yrs</b>	<b>6,000-16,000</b>
HIMALAYAN BALSAM	5		2 yrs	700-800
MARSH THISTLE	6		1-3 yrs	300-2,000
<b>GARLIC MUSTARD</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>5+ yrs</b>	<b>350-7,900</b>



## MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW No. 16

# Manager's Report

**Department:** Agricultural Service Board

**Submitted by:** Sheila Kaus, Manager, Agricultural Services

**Date:** 04/04/2023

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In alignment with the 2022-2025 Greenview Strategic Plan, some of the key activities and projects worked on by Agricultural Services this month are:

Greenview Agricultural Services has successfully applied for a damage control license that permits the Problem Wildlife Team to foothold trap both coyote and red fox, out of season. This will allow the team to address predation issues related to coyote in areas that have a high density of domestic dogs, making snaring and the use of toxicant inadvisable due to the potential risk to off target animals.

Throughout March, there has been heavy use of the departments scare cannons to deter elk from feed storage locations in surrounding livestock operations. In discussion with Saddle Hills County and the Wildlife Conflict Specialist with the Alberta Government, Administration intends to bring forward information on cost-sharing with the Alberta government under the welded panel program. The Wildlife Conflict Specialist is scheduled as a delegation for the June 28<sup>th</sup> Agricultural Service Board meeting.

The Landcare Coordinator delivered the Classroom Agriculture Program presentations to grade 4 students in Grande Cache. The presentations went very well, the students asked many questions and seemed very interested. The Coordinator brought along many things for them to pass around, hold and even gave demonstrations of how to use certain pieces of equipment that gets used daily on a cattle ranch. The presentation focused mainly on food production and how all food comes from agriculture so students could gain appreciation an appreciation for the work that goes into the food we eat. The other portion of the presentation focused on what life looks like as an agricultural producer and the kinds of work producers do in a day when working on the on a cattle ranch. The kit assembled will be kept for future presentations.

The first extension event of 2023 was hosted in Grande Cache and centred around gardening within the area. A local greenhouse proprietor presented on plant hardiness zones and what plants will succeed in the short alpine season. 35 people attended. On March 26<sup>th</sup>, Agricultural Services partnered with the Grovedale Agricultural Society for the Grovedale Seed Swap. The seed swap ran from 10am-1pm. The speaker gave a casual presentation from 11am-12pm. This was a great event with great reviews. It provided a valuable opportunity to talk about

Greenview's programs and weed control. Future events partnering with the Grovedale Agricultural Society seem very promising and they are open to continued collaboration.

### Problem Wildlife Work Orders

File Status	Beaver- MD	Beaver- Ratepayer	Customer Service	Predation	Totals
In Queue	-	-	-	-	
Open	-	-	3	5	8
Closed	-	-	9	12	21
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>29</b>

Recruitment contributes to providing consistent levels of service as the department would not be capable of delivering seasonal control programs without the seasonal staff brought into the department annually to facilitate the work. Administration is finalizing recruitment of seasonal staff and the Supervisors are collaborating with the Safety department to finalize training requirements in 2023.

Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) encourages livestock producers to access veterinary care and maintain herd health, protecting the economic viability of their livestock operation.

### VSI Quarterly Reports and Service Breakdown – 2022

Fourth quarter VSI totals have been received. For 2022, there was a 4.2% decrease in claims. This decrease is suspected to be related to increased difficulty of livestock producers accessing veterinary services coupled with policy changes implementing in 2021 requiring participants to be a resident of Greenview.

	# Services	2022	2021	2020	+/- (%)
<b>Total 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter</b>	70	\$17,268.52	\$19,269.77	\$21,172.35	-8.99%
<b>Total 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter</b>	175	\$33,563.50	\$33,953.33	\$36,569.40	-1.15%
<b>Total 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</b>	41	\$6,361.23	\$ 8,382.80	\$ 8,342.09	-24.1%
<b>Total 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter</b>	116	\$41,106.15	\$40,995.55	\$34,228.60	0.3%
<b>2022 Claims</b>	402	<b>\$98,299.40</b>	<b>\$102,601.45</b>	<b>\$100,312.44</b>	<b>-4.2%</b>

Preg Checks: 13,765  
 Semen Testing: 689  
 C-Sections: 20  
 Exams: 53  
 Herd Health: 9

The Agricultural Equipment Rental Program contributes to the economic viability of agricultural producers by providing equipment for rent that is cost prohibitive to purchased, when measured against frequency of use. Rental Equipment stands at 11 rental days up to March 28, 2023. Multiple scare cannons have not returned and those totals will be reflected in April's report.



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

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**SUBJECT:** Correspondence

**SUBMISSION TO:** AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD      **REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION**

**MEETING DATE:** April 4, 2023      **CAO:**      **MANAGER:** SK

**DEPARTMENT:** AGRICULTURE      **DIR:** MH      **PRESENTER:** SK

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** Level of Service      **LEG:**

---

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION:**

**Provincial (cite) – N/A**

**Council Bylaw/Policy (cite) – N/A**

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**MOTION: That the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence for information, as presented.**

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**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. AFSC Letter, Saddle Hills County, March 22, 2023
2. Precipitation Reports from Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation March 7th and 15th
  - a. Map 1-18

---

**UPCOMING EVENT(S):**

1. April 11, 2023      [Converting Your Lawn to a Meadow](#)
2. April 12, 2023      [Cover Crop Economics in Livestock Systems](#)
3. April 14-16, 2023      [Spring Home and Garden Show](#)
4. April 17-18, 2023      [AG Drone School](#)
5. April 19, 2023      [Forage Systems - Opportunities and Benefits](#)
6. April 25, 2023      [Managing Pests and Problems in Horticulture](#)
7. April 25, 2023      [Beavers in our Backyard](#)
8. April 29, 2023      [Craft and Critter Sale](#)
9. Assistant Deputy Minister Town Hall with John Conrad
  - a. Follow Up on AB Transportation Weed Control, Weeds on Well Sites
  - b. AER – Approvals for locations of renewable energy facilities (solar/wind installations on prime ag land)
    - i. If you have topics you would like to discuss, pls let Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation know to have them added to the agenda before April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

---

**BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. The benefit of the Agricultural Service Board accepting the recommended motion is that the Board will be made aware of the events, seminars and conferences within the agricultural community throughout the Province.

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**DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended motion.

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**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

**Alternative #1:** The Agricultural Service Board has the alternative to alter or deny the recommended motion.

---

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:**

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion.

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**STAFFING IMPLICATION:**

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

---

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:**

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

**INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT**

Inform

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL**

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

**PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC**

Inform - We will keep you informed.

---

**FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:**

There are no follow up actions to the recommended motion.

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Agriculture Financial Services Corporation  
Lacombe Central Office  
5718-56 Ave  
Lacombe, AB  
T4L 1B1

**RE: Drone Usage in Wildlife Damage Claims**

The Saddle Hills County Agricultural Service Board has been in discussions regarding the use of drones in inspections for agricultural producers wishing to be compensated for wildlife damage to eligible crops. For agricultural producers to receive compensation, all wildlife damage is to be reported through Agricultural Financial Services Corporation (AFSC)'s online portal. However, the process of receiving compensation is often cumbersome and drawn out, as adjustors are required to inspect the locations of damages reported online in person.

Saddle Hills County encompasses two Wildlife Management Units (WMUs), 358 and 359. Wildlife damage to crops is a consistent problem for agricultural producers in these areas. The Agricultural Service Board has compiled preliminary research on insurance claims due to wildlife damages in these WMUs. In 2022, 7,057 acres of cropland in Saddle Hills County were damaged by wildlife, and AFSC paid out approximately \$2,000,000 in claims. During the 2021 growing season, AFSC ran a pilot project in partnership with Olds College to see if using drone imagery in hail damaged fields can assist in the assessment processes. On the AFSC website this project is said to have had “promising initial results show(ing) that drones could provide a good overview of the extent of damage”.

The Agricultural Service Board believes there is the potential for AFSC to also use drone technology for assessment of wildlife damages, and that field assessments would be more accurate and provide a more precise overview of the number of acres damaged by wildlife if drones were utilized. The Agricultural Service Board would also like to ask AFSC to consider allowing producers to submit their own drone footage of wildlife damaged fields through the AFSC Connect online portal, to reduce the wait time associated with having an adjustor come out for an in-person inspection. If AFSC is open to the possibility of producers submitting



their own footage, Saddle Hills County has put on educational drone courses previously and would be willing to work with AFSC to ensure our producers are trained to a standard to meet any requirements set.

Sincerely,













Adam Fitzpatrick  
Saddle Hills County Agricultural Service Board Chair

cc: Peace Region Agricultural Service Boards  
Saddle Hills County Council

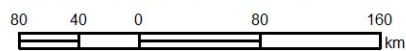


# Spring Wheat Soil Moisture Reserves Relative to Long Term Normal to a Depth of 120 cm

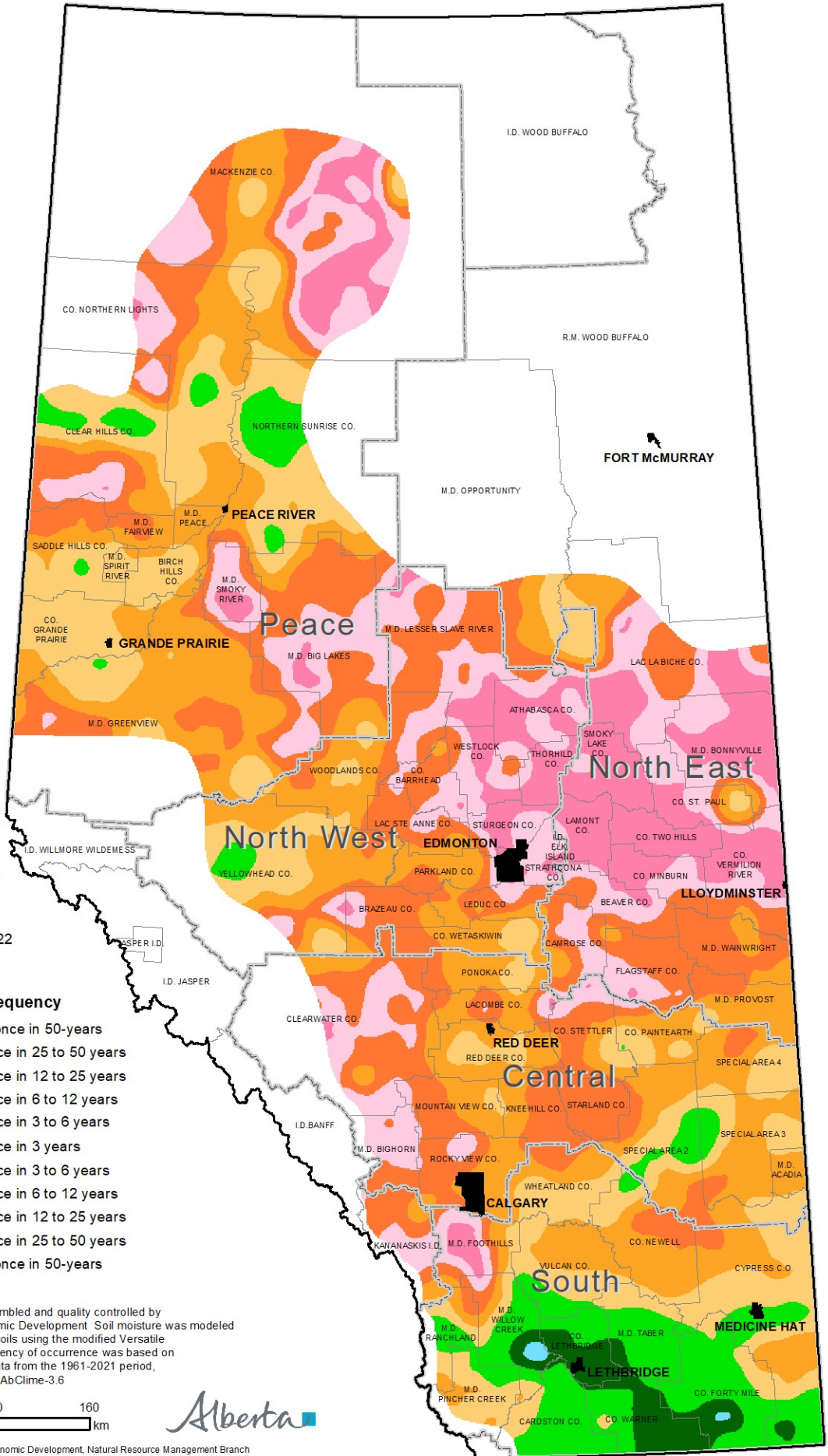
Estimated as of October 26, 2022

Condition	Frequency
 driest	< once in 50-years
 extremely low	once in 25 to 50 years
 very low	once in 12 to 25 years
 low	once in 6 to 12 years
 moderately low	once in 3 to 6 years
 near normal	once in 3 years
 moderately high	once in 3 to 6 years
 high	once in 6 to 12 years
 very high	once in 12 to 25 years
 extremely high	once in 25 to 50 years
 wettest	< once in 50-years
 no data	

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development. Soil moisture was modeled for spring wheat on medium textured soils using the modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0. The frequency of occurrence was based on model runs using historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6















Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on October 27, 2022

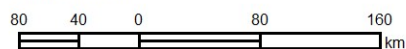


# Snow Pack Accumulations on Stubble Fields Relative to Long Term Normal

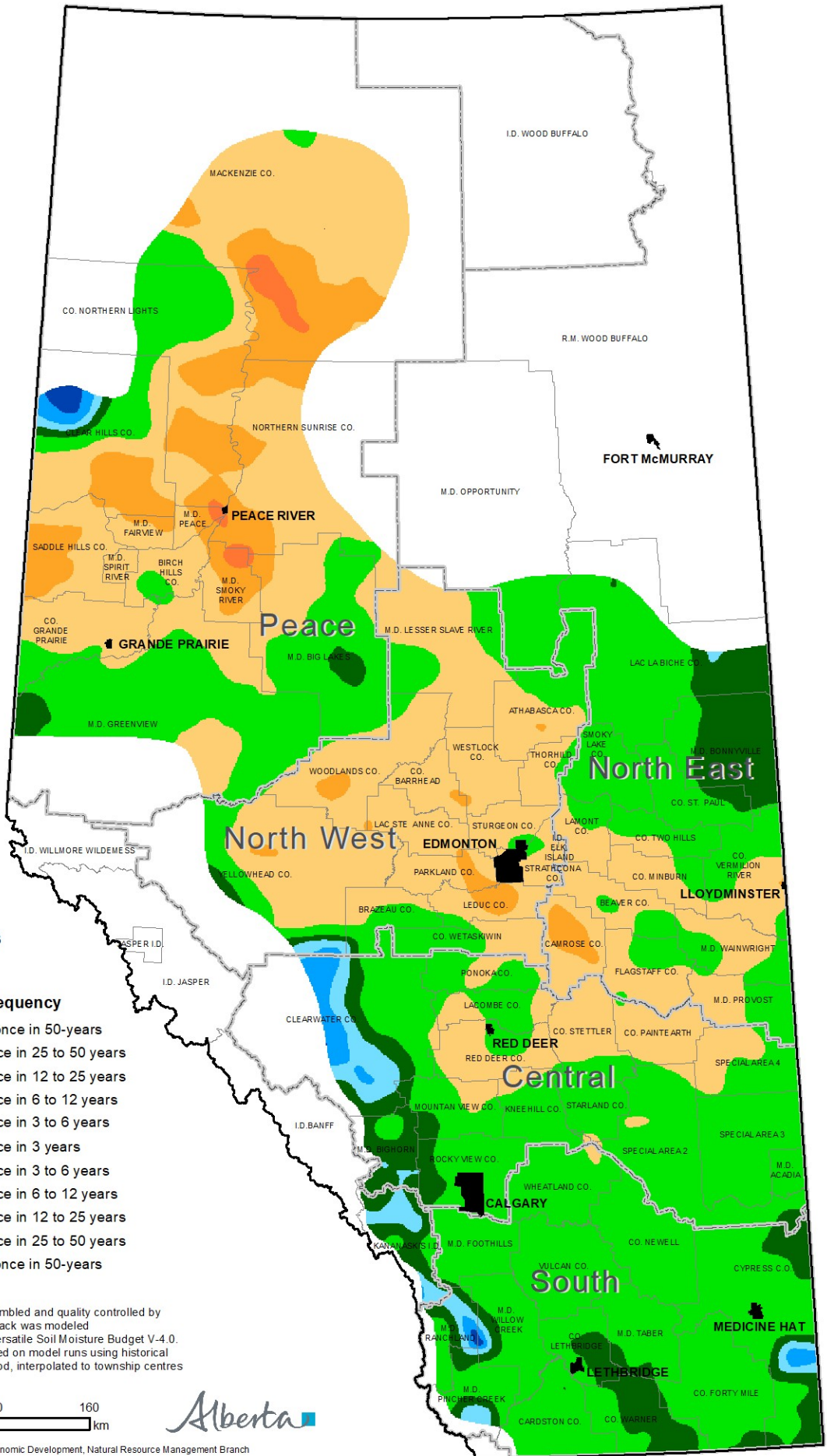
Estimated as of March 02, 2023

Condition	Frequency
 driest	< once in 50-years
 extremely low	once in 25 to 50 years
 very low	once in 12 to 25 years
 low	once in 6 to 12 years
 moderately low	once in 3 to 6 years
 near normal	once in 3 years
 moderately high	once in 3 to 6 years
 high	once in 6 to 12 years
 very high	once in 12 to 25 years
 extremely high	once in 25 to 50 years
 wettest	< once in 50-years
 no data	

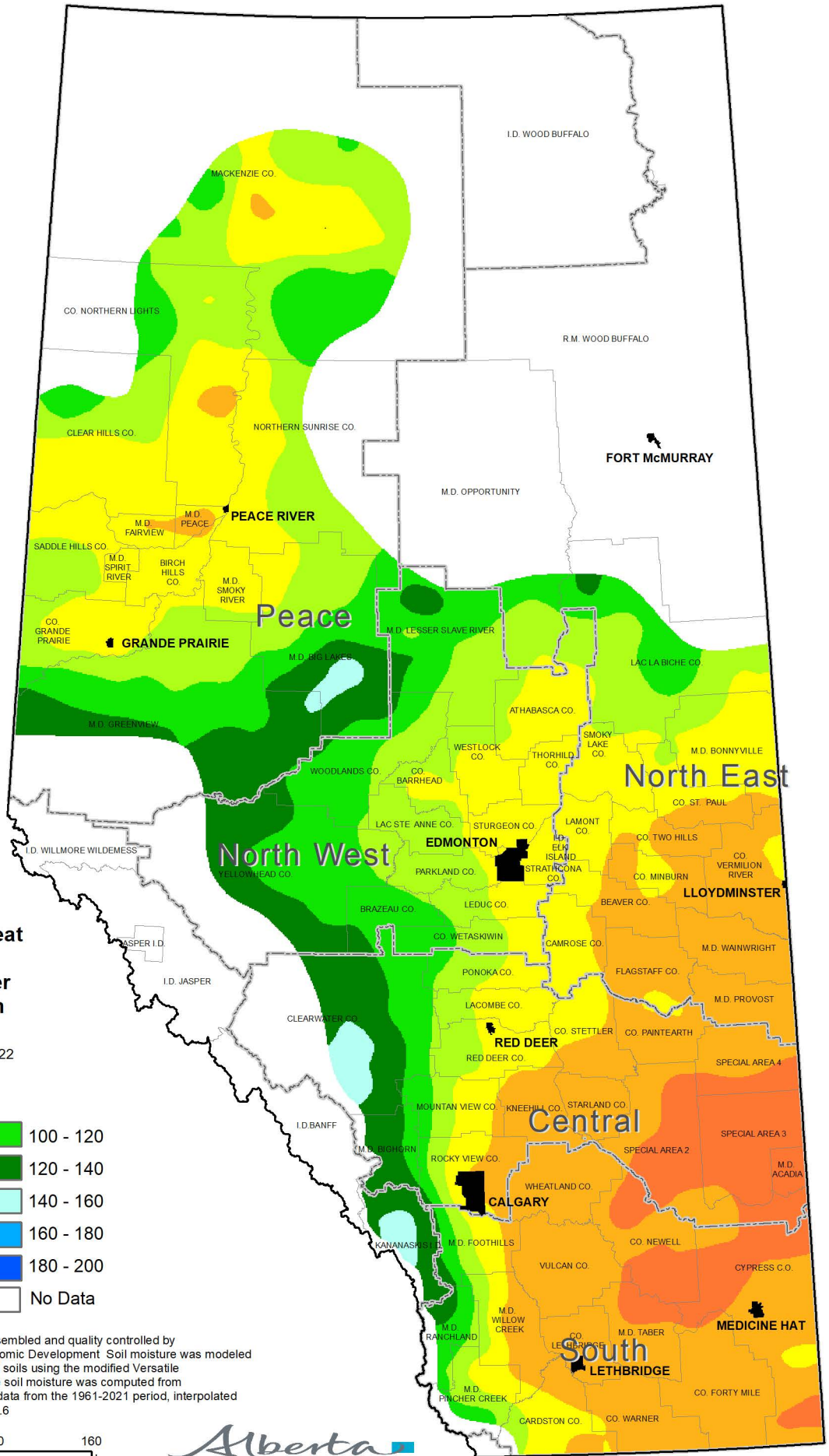
Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture and Irrigation. The snow pack was modeled for stubble fields using the Modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0. The frequency of occurrence was based on model runs using historical weather data from the 1961-2022 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on March 03, 2023







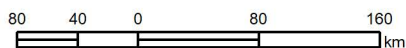
**Average Spring Wheat Soil Moisture as Plant Available Water to a Depth of 120 cm**

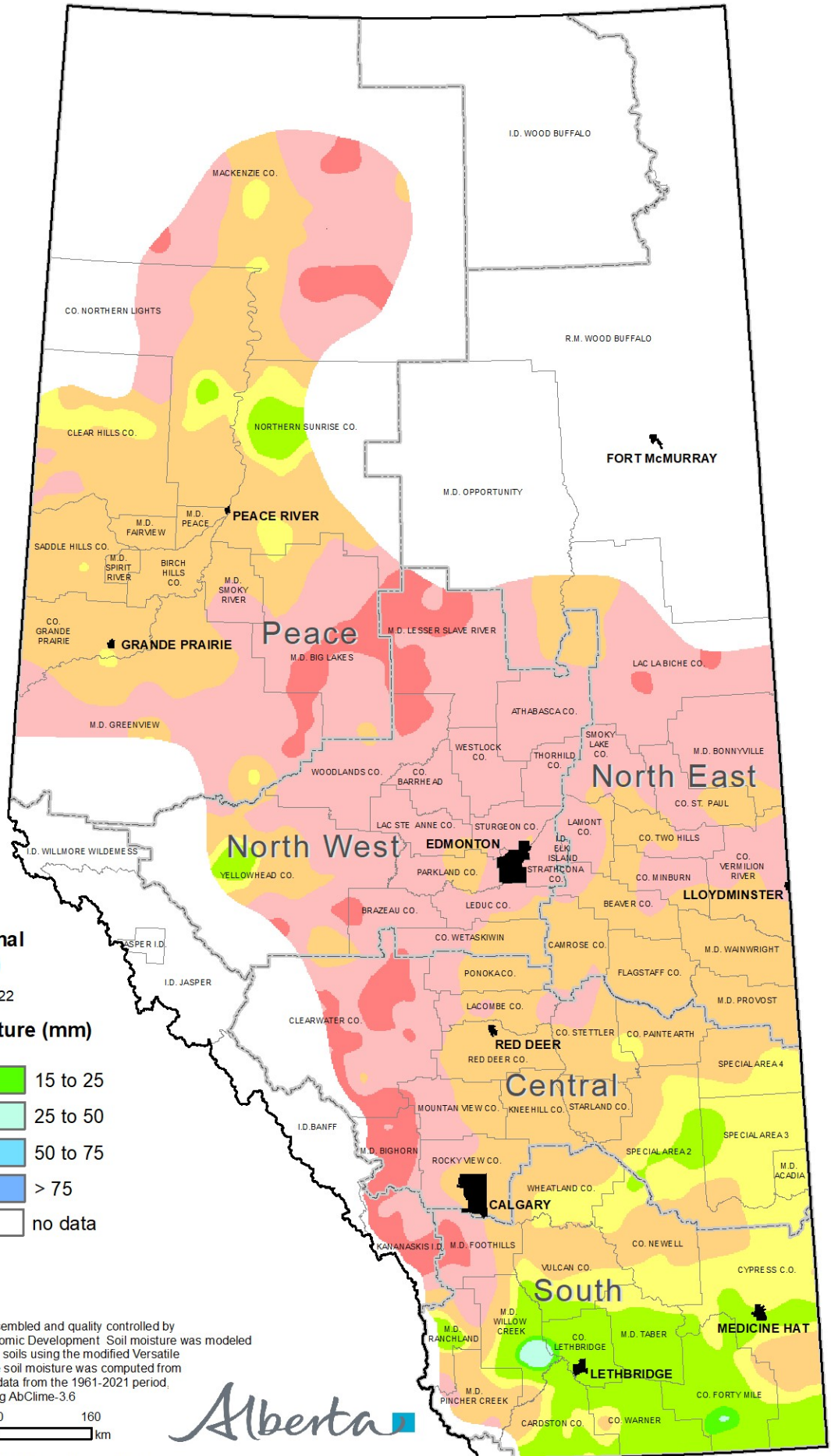
Estimated as of October 26, 2022

**Soil Moisture (mm)**

0 - 10	100 - 120
10 - 20	120 - 140
20 - 40	140 - 160
40 - 60	160 - 180
60 - 80	180 - 200
80 - 100	No Data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development. Soil moisture was modeled for spring wheat on medium textured soils using the modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0. Average soil moisture was computed from model runs using historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClimate-3.6





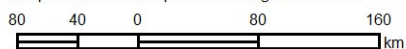
**Spring Wheat  
Soil Moisture  
Departure from Normal  
to a Depth of 120 cm**

Estimated as of October 26, 2022

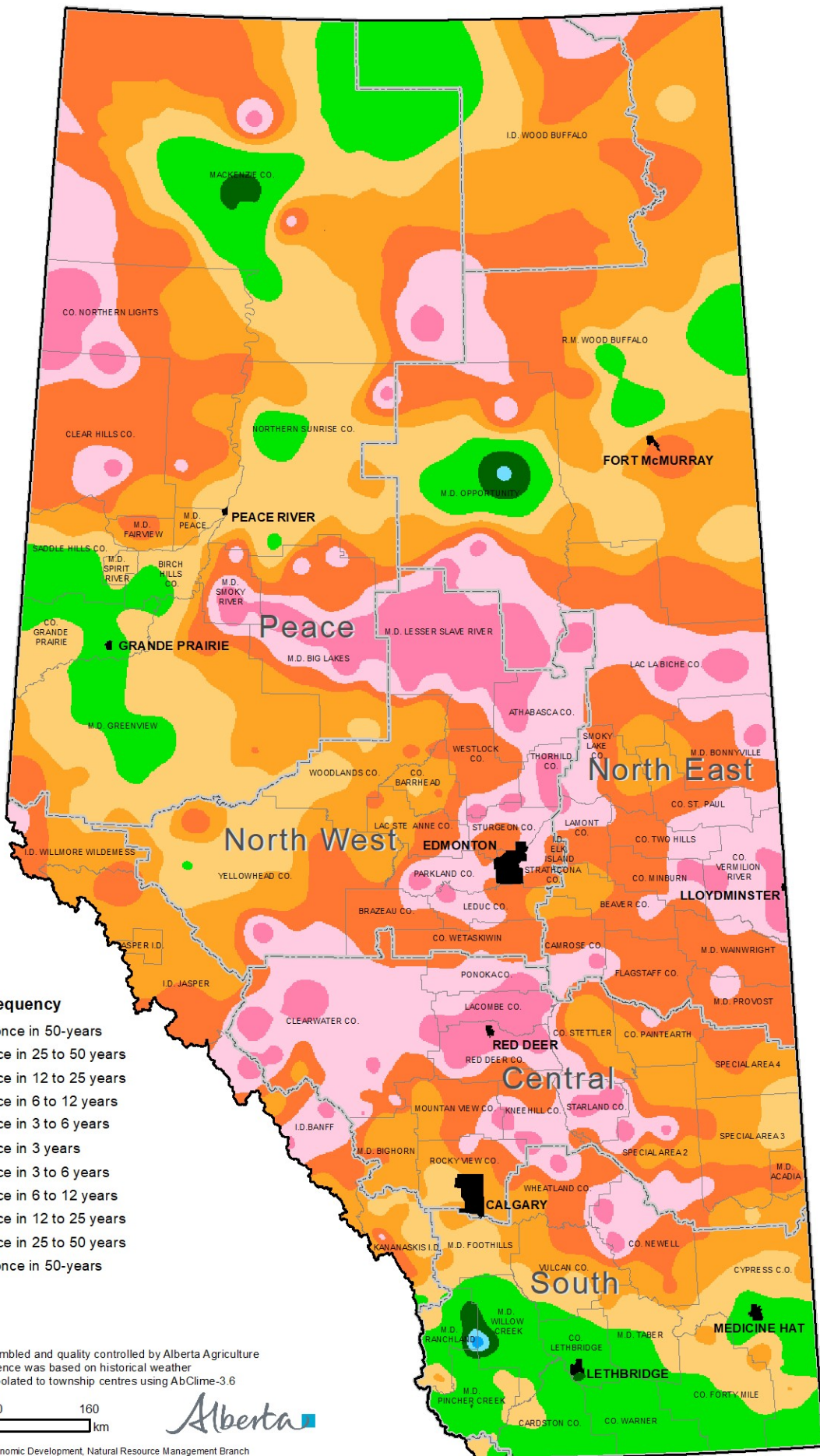
**Soil Moisture Departure (mm)**

	< -75		15 to 25
	-75 to -50		25 to 50
	-50 to -25		50 to 75
	-25 to -15		> 75
	-15 to 15		no data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development. Soil moisture was modeled for spring wheat on medium textured soils using the modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0. Average soil moisture was computed from model runs using historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClim-3.6





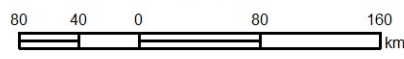


**60-Day  
Precipitation  
Accumulations  
Relative to  
Long Term Normal**

August 28, 2022 to  
October 26, 2022

Condition	Frequency
	< once in 50-years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 3 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	< once in 50-years
	no data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClima-3.6



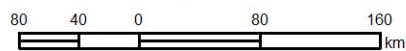
Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on October 27, 2022

# 90-Day Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Long Term Normal

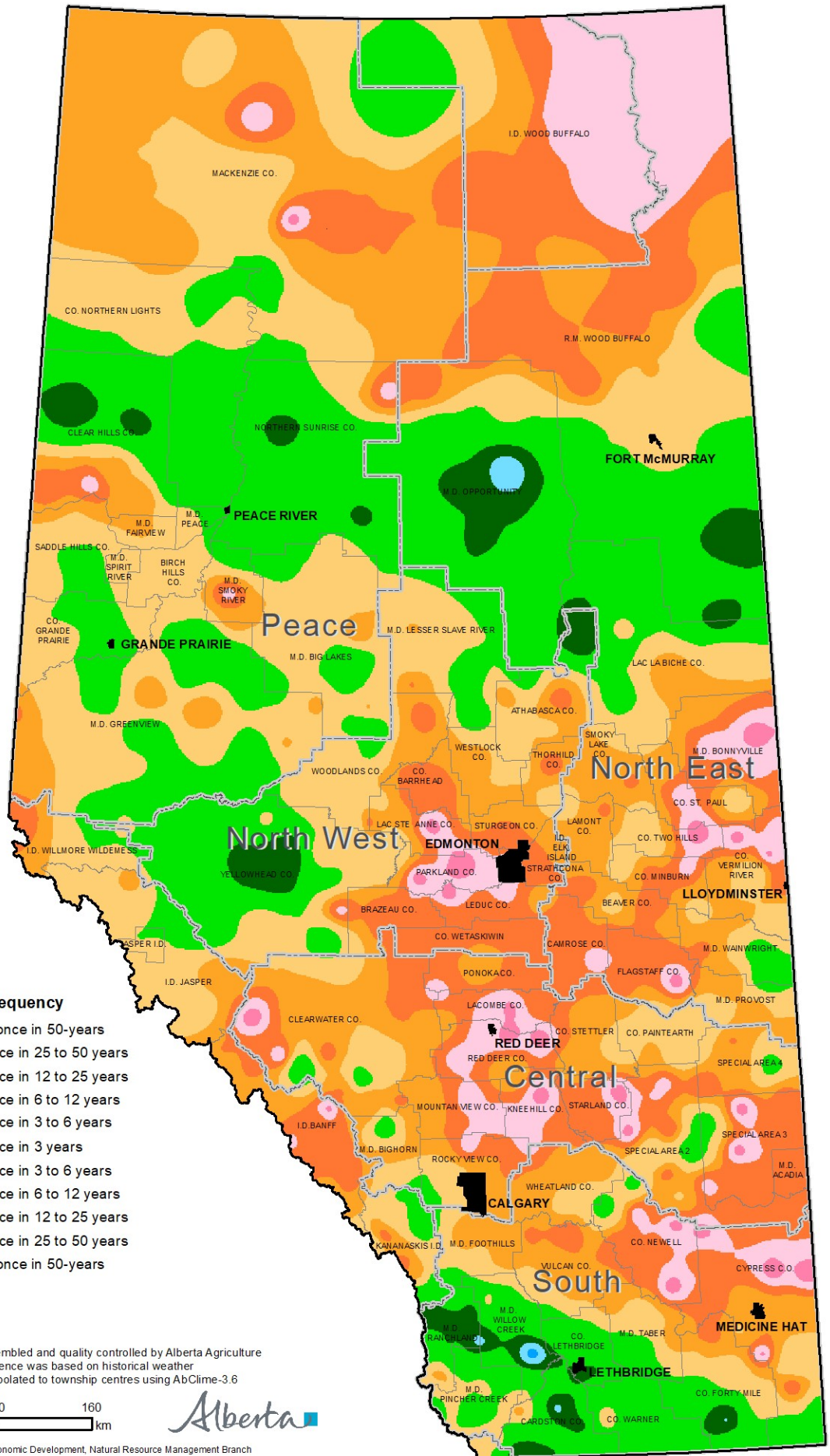
July 29, 2022 to  
October 26, 2022

Condition	Frequency
	< once in 50-years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 3 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	< once in 50-years
	no data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on October 27, 2022



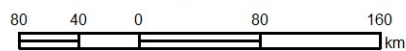


# 60-Day Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Long Term Normal

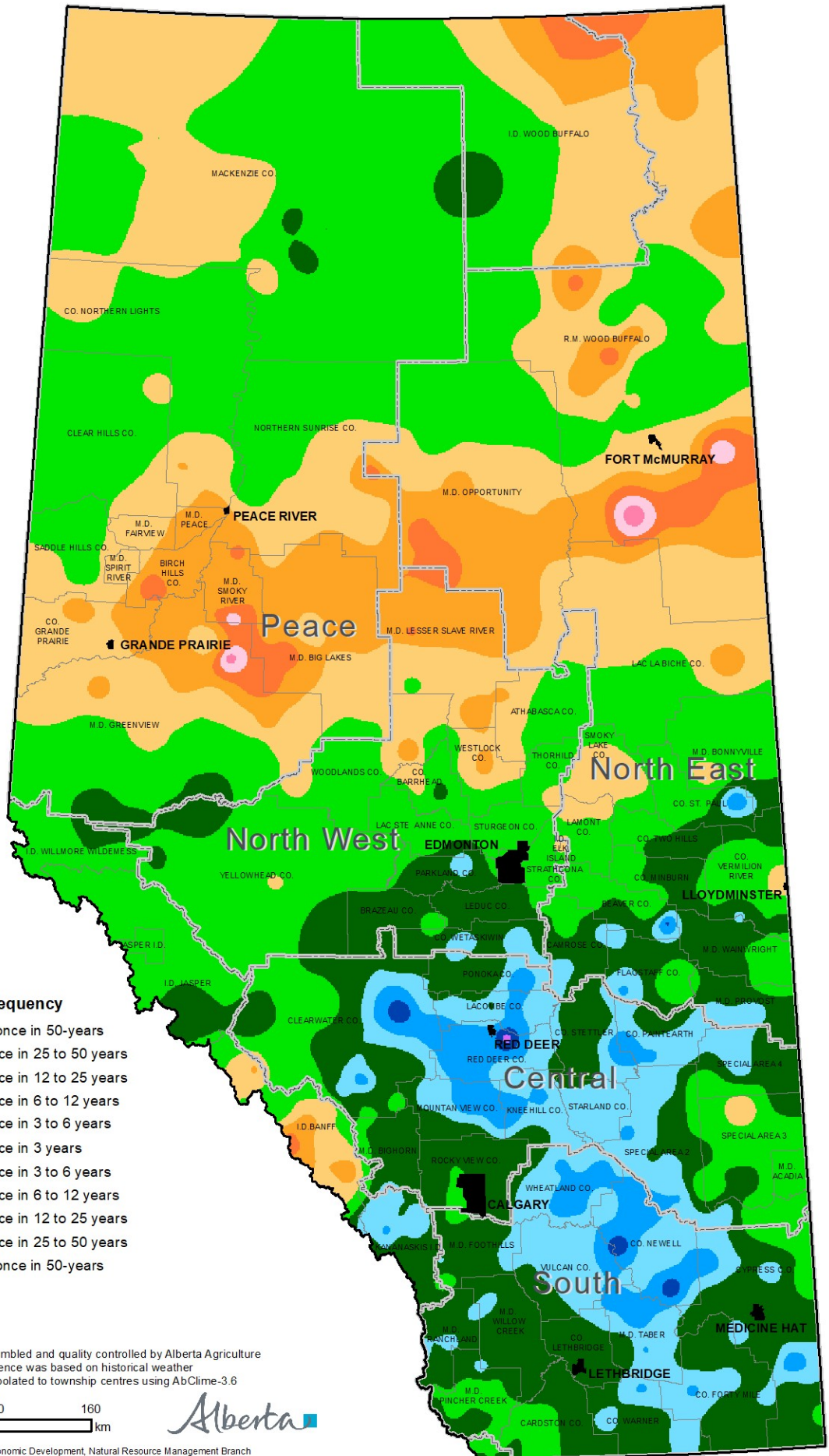
May 27, 2022 to  
July 25, 2022

Condition	Frequency
	< once in 50-years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 3 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	< once in 50-years
	no data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6















Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on July 26, 2022



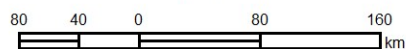


### Cold Season Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Long Term Normal

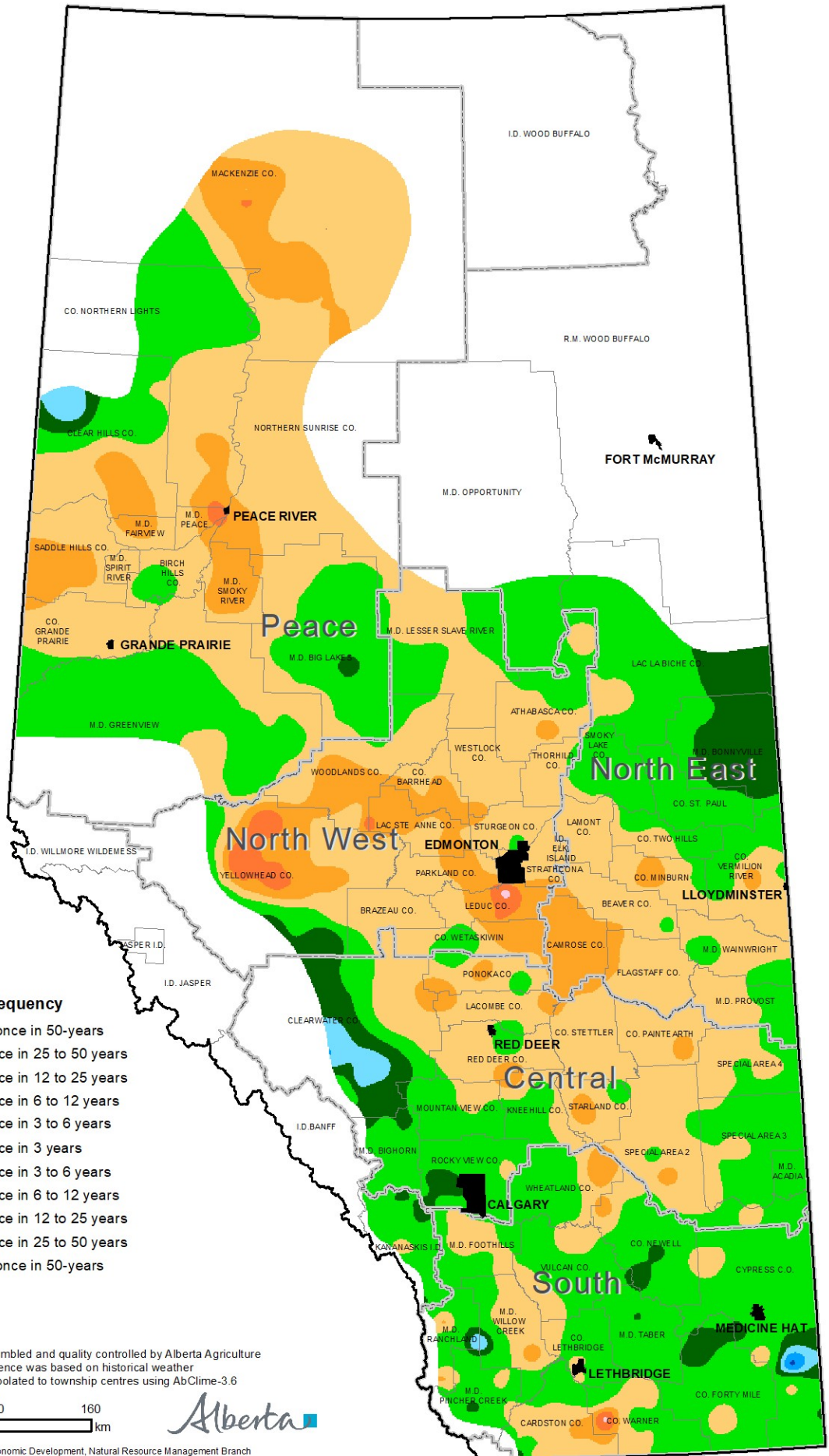
November 01, 2022 to March 12, 2023

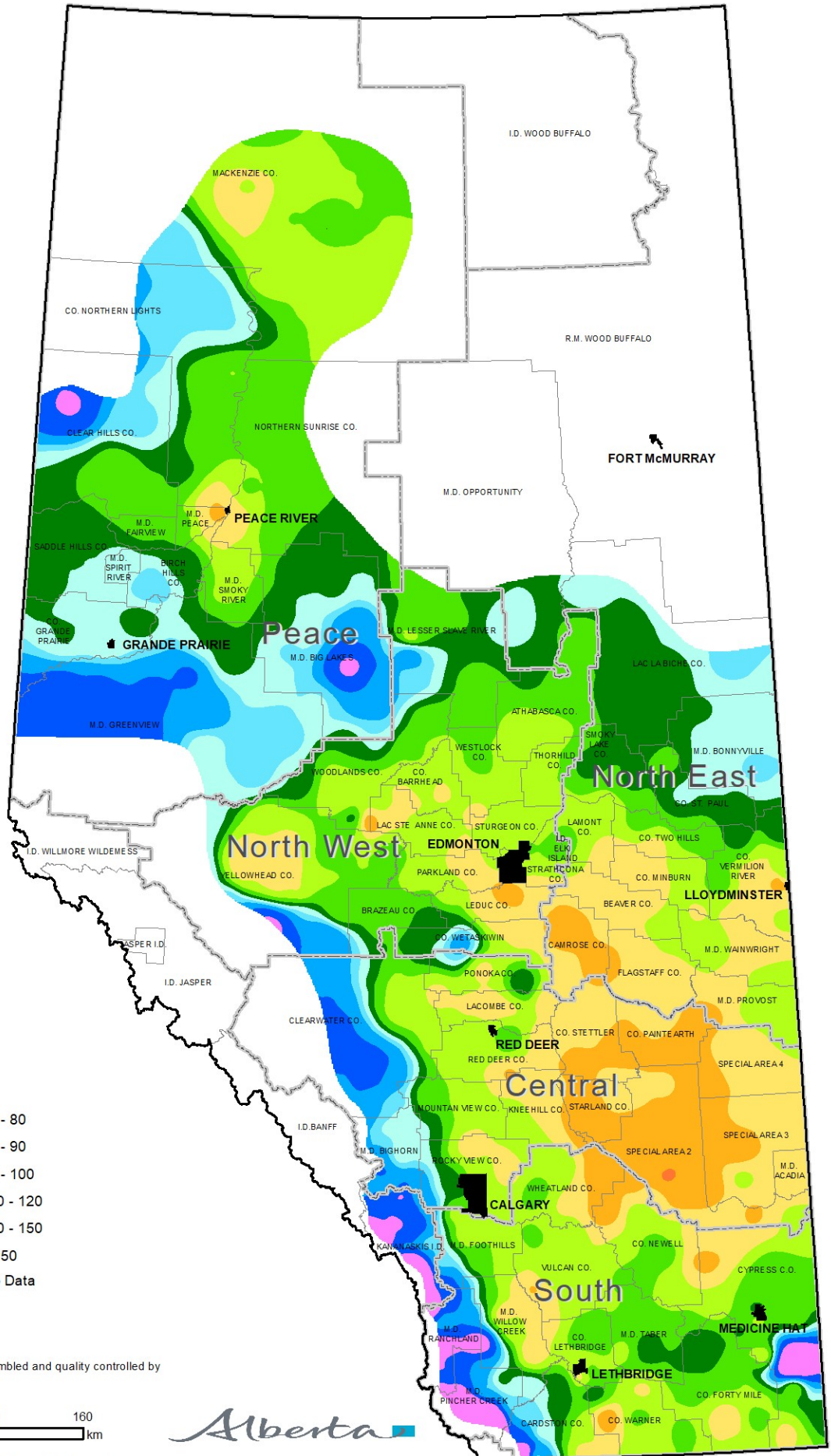
Condition	Frequency
	< once in 50-years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 3 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	< once in 50-years
	no data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2022 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClima-3.6



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on March 13, 2023





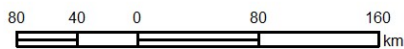
**Cold Season  
Precipitation to Date**

November 01, 2022 to  
March 12, 2023

**Precipitation (mm)**

0 - 10	70 - 80
10 - 20	80 - 90
20 - 30	90 - 100
30 - 40	100 - 120
40 - 50	120 - 150
50 - 60	> 150
60 - 70	No Data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by  
Agriculture and Irrigation.















Compiled by Alberta Agriculture Forestry and Rural Economic Development  
Created on March 13, 2023



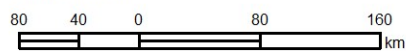


## Snow Pack Accumulations on Stubble Fields Relative to Long Term Normal

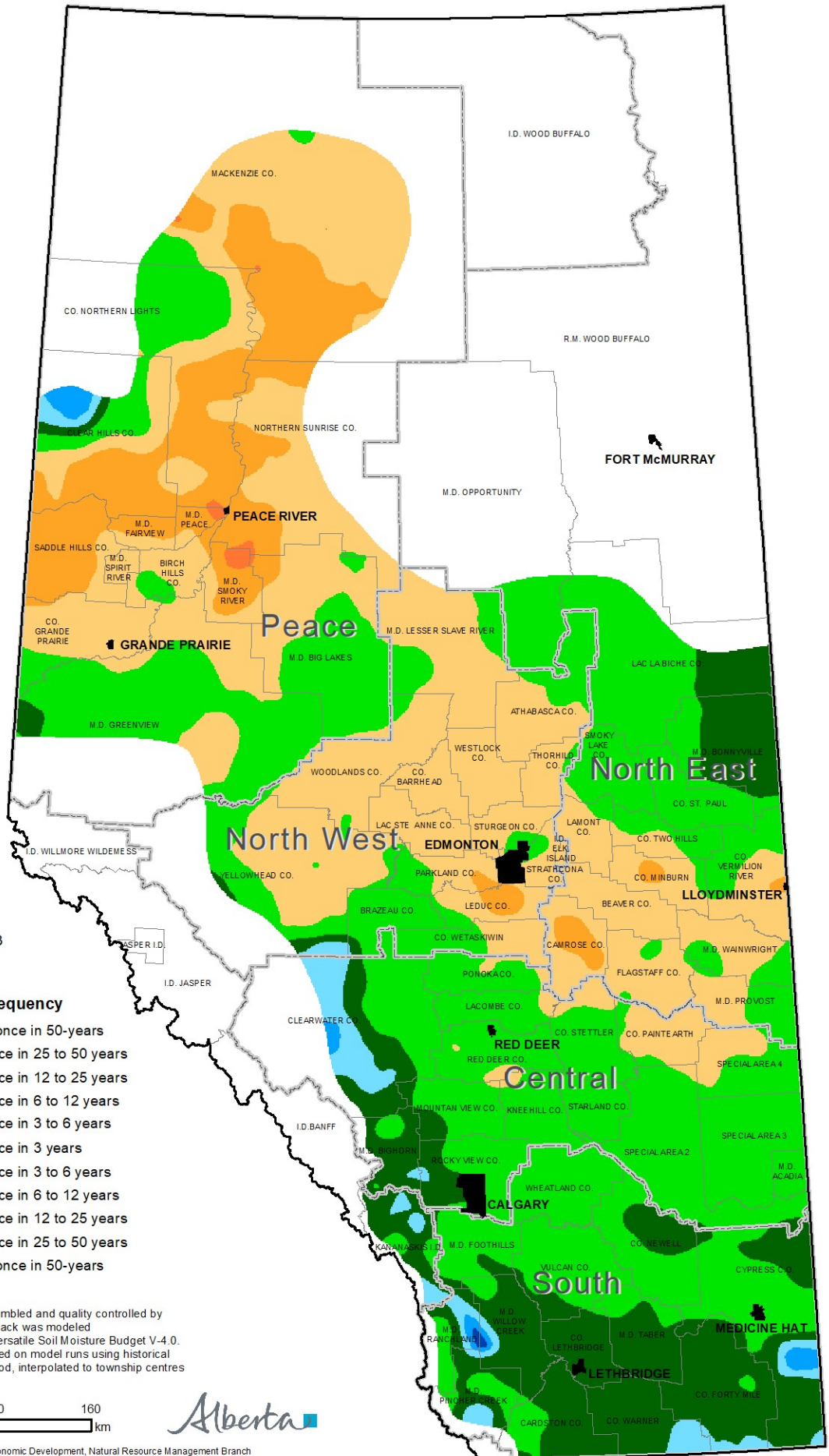
Estimated as of March 12, 2023

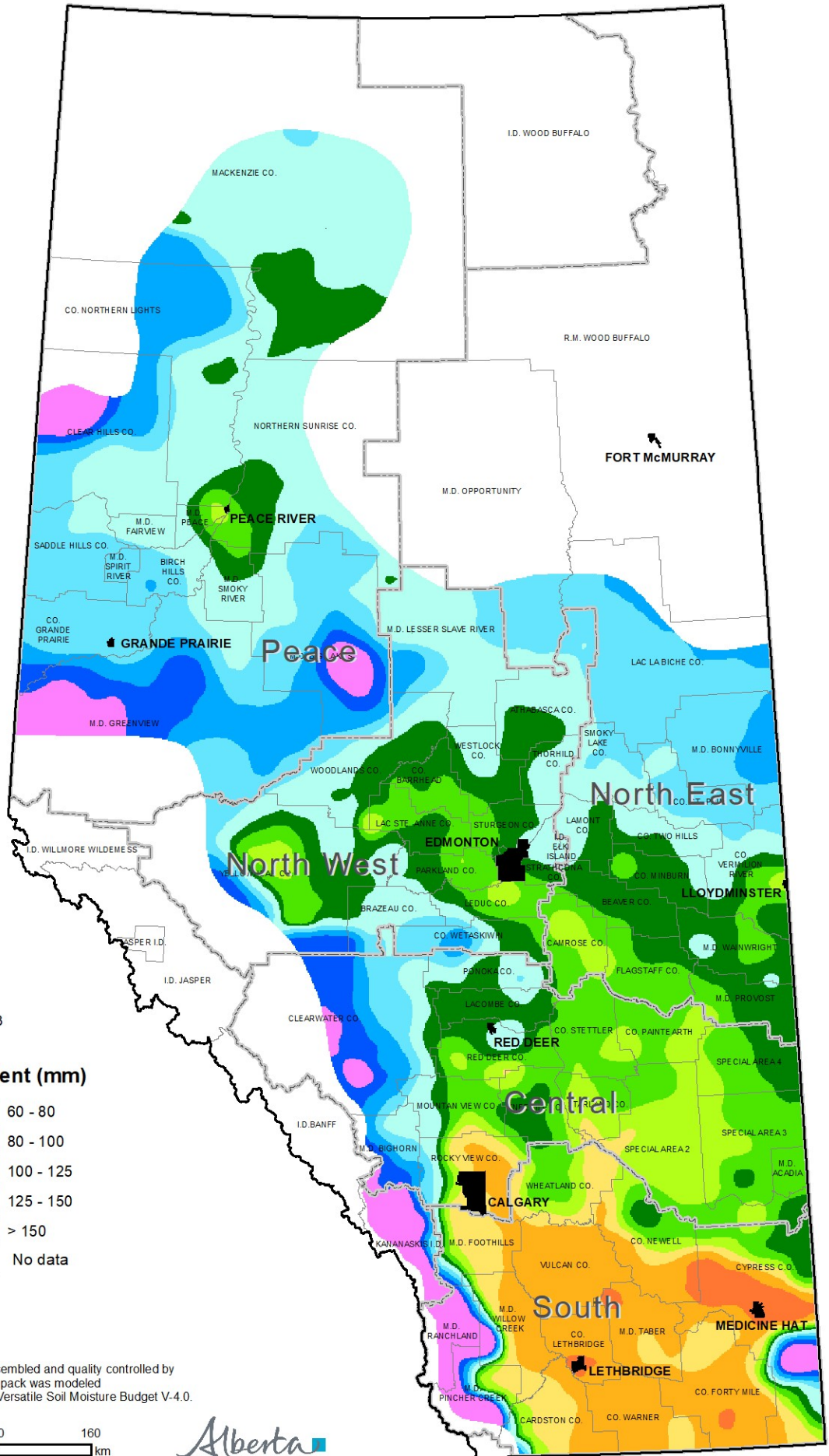
Condition	Frequency
	< once in 50-years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 3 years
	once in 3 to 6 years
	once in 6 to 12 years
	once in 12 to 25 years
	once in 25 to 50 years
	< once in 50-years
	no data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture and Irrigation. The snow pack was modeled for stubble fields using the Modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0. The frequency of occurrence was based on model runs using historical weather data from the 1961-2022 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on March 13, 2023





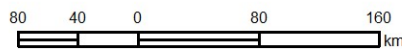
**Snow Pack Water Equivalent on Stubble Fields**

Estimated as of March 12, 2023

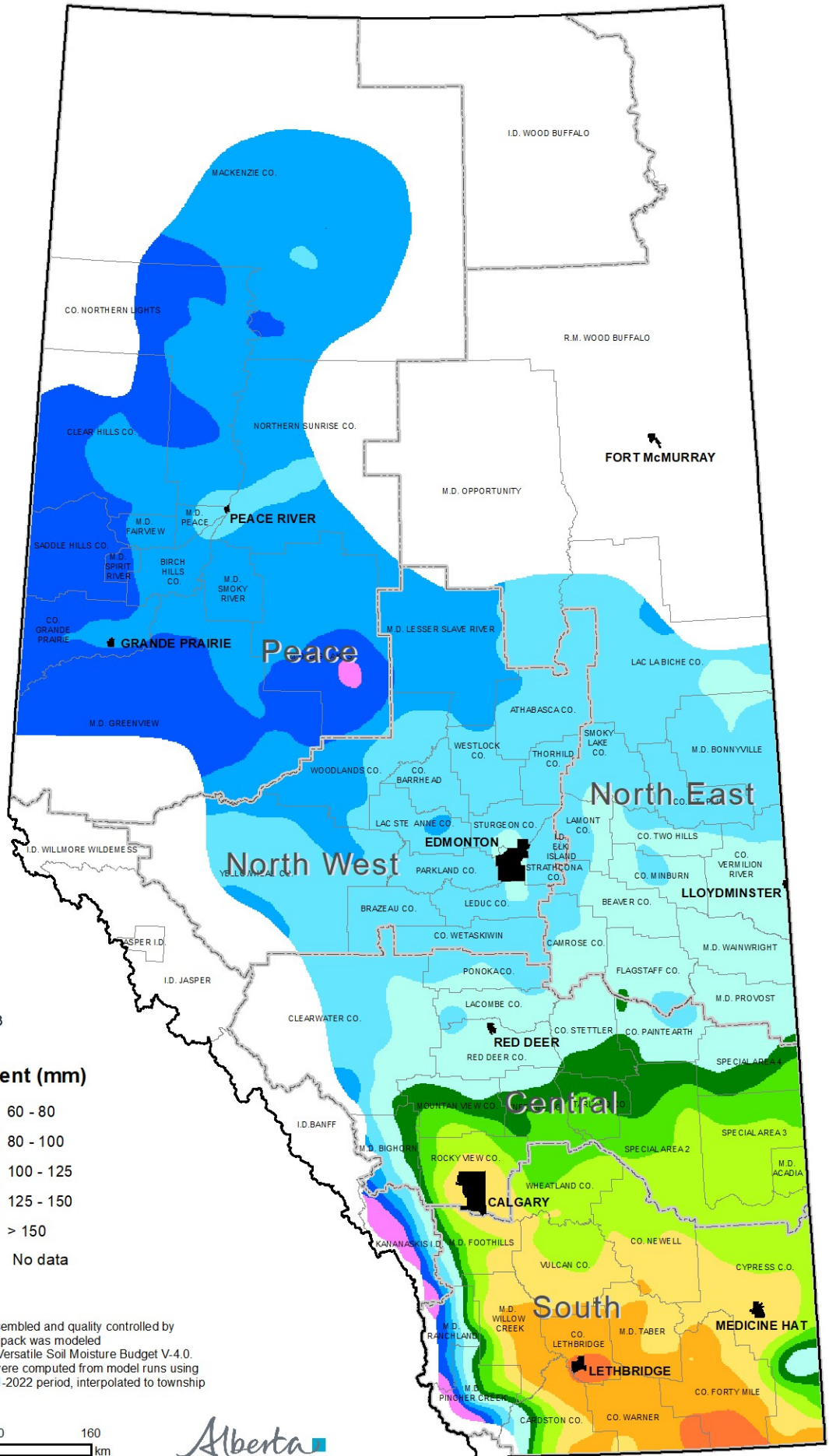
**Snow Water Equivalent (mm)**

0 - 1	60 - 80
1 - 10	80 - 100
10 - 20	100 - 125
20 - 30	125 - 150
30 - 40	> 150
40 - 50	No data
50 - 60	

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture and Irrigation. The snow pack was modeled for stubble fields using the modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0.







**Average Snow Pack Water Equivalent on Stubble Fields**

Estimated as of March 12, 2023

**Snow Water Equivalent (mm)**













0 - 1	60 - 80
1 - 10	80 - 100
10 - 20	100 - 125
20 - 30	125 - 150
30 - 40	> 150
40 - 50	No data
50 - 60	

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture and Irrigation. The snow pack was modeled for stubble fields using the modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0. Average snow pack accumulations were computed from model runs using historical weather data from the 1961-2022 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6

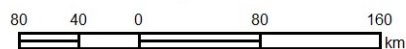


### 365-Day Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Long Term Normal

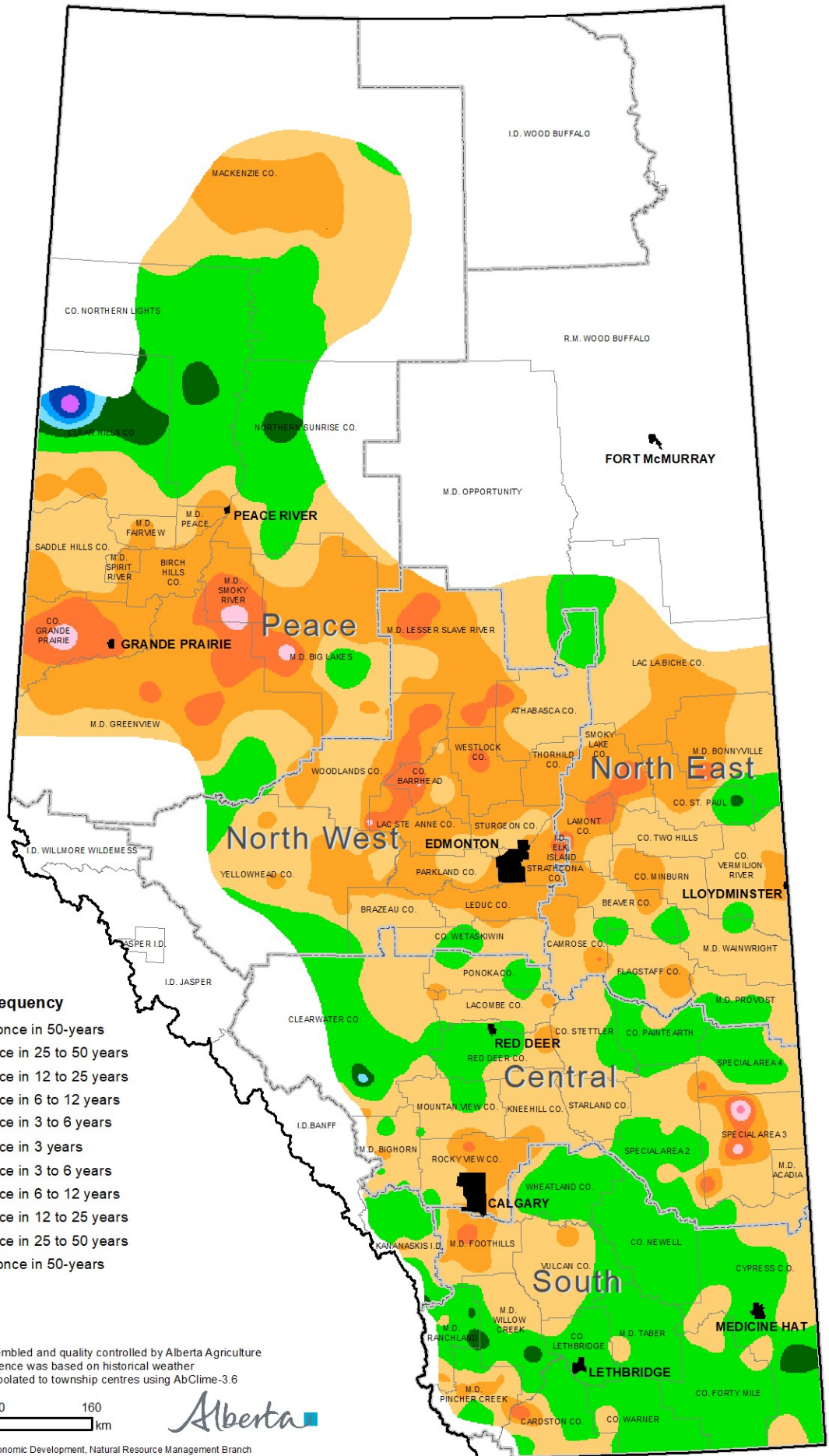
March 13, 2022 to  
March 12, 2023

Condition	Frequency
 driest	< once in 50-years
 extremely low	once in 25 to 50 years
 very low	once in 12 to 25 years
 low	once in 6 to 12 years
 moderately low	once in 3 to 6 years
 near normal	once in 3 years
 moderately high	once in 3 to 6 years
 high	once in 6 to 12 years
 very high	once in 12 to 25 years
 extremely high	once in 25 to 50 years
 wettest	< once in 50-years
 no data	

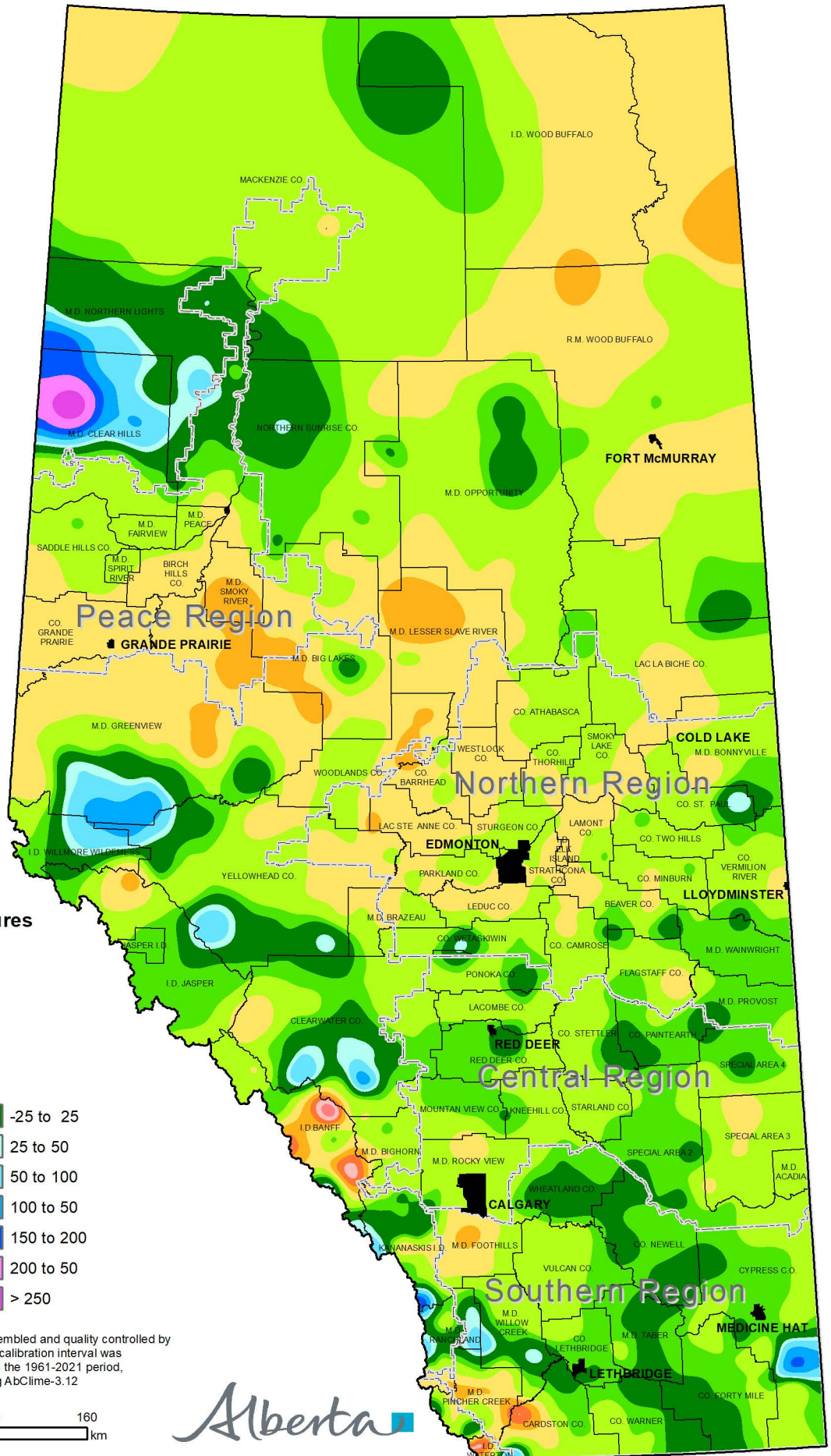
Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2022 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClima-3.6



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on March 13, 2023



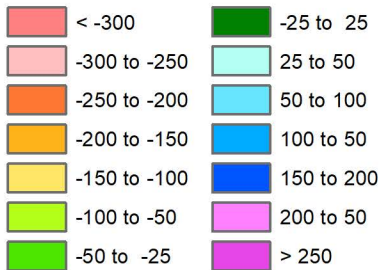




**Precipitation Departures  
Relative to Normal  
During the Past Year**

March 13, 2022 to  
March 12, 2023

**Precipitation (mm)**



Year-round real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The calibration interval was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centers using AbClimate-3.12





# 10-Year Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Long Term Normal

March 13, 2017 to  
March 12, 2023

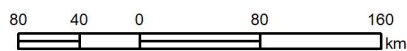
### Condition

- driest
- extremely low
- very low
- low
- moderately low
- near normal
- moderately high
- high
- very high
- extremely high
- wettest
- no data

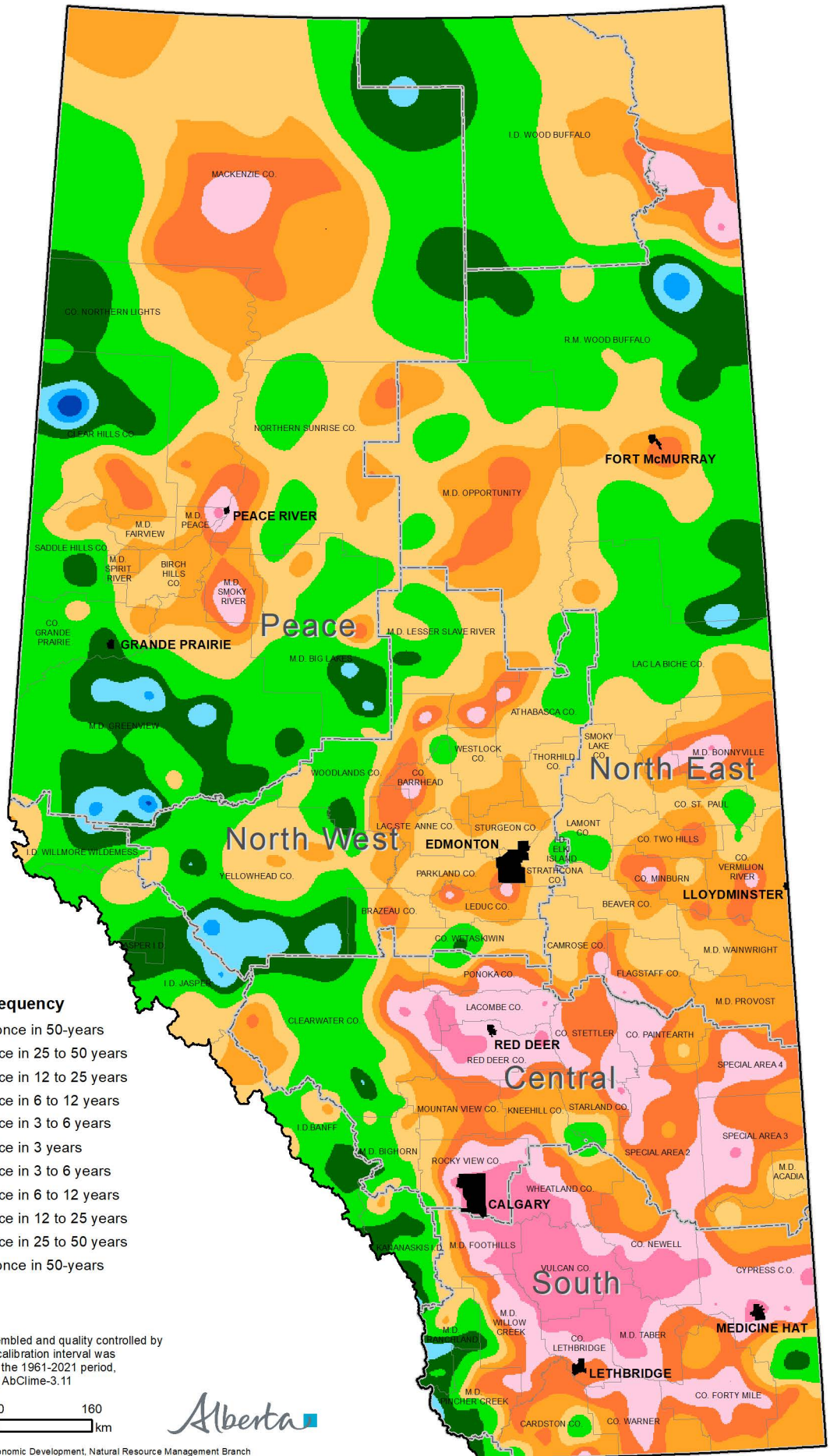
### Frequency

- < once in 50-years
- once in 25 to 50 years
- once in 12 to 25 years
- once in 6 to 12 years
- once in 3 to 6 years
- once in 3 years
- once in 3 to 6 years
- once in 6 to 12 years
- once in 12 to 25 years
- once in 25 to 50 years
- < once in 50-years

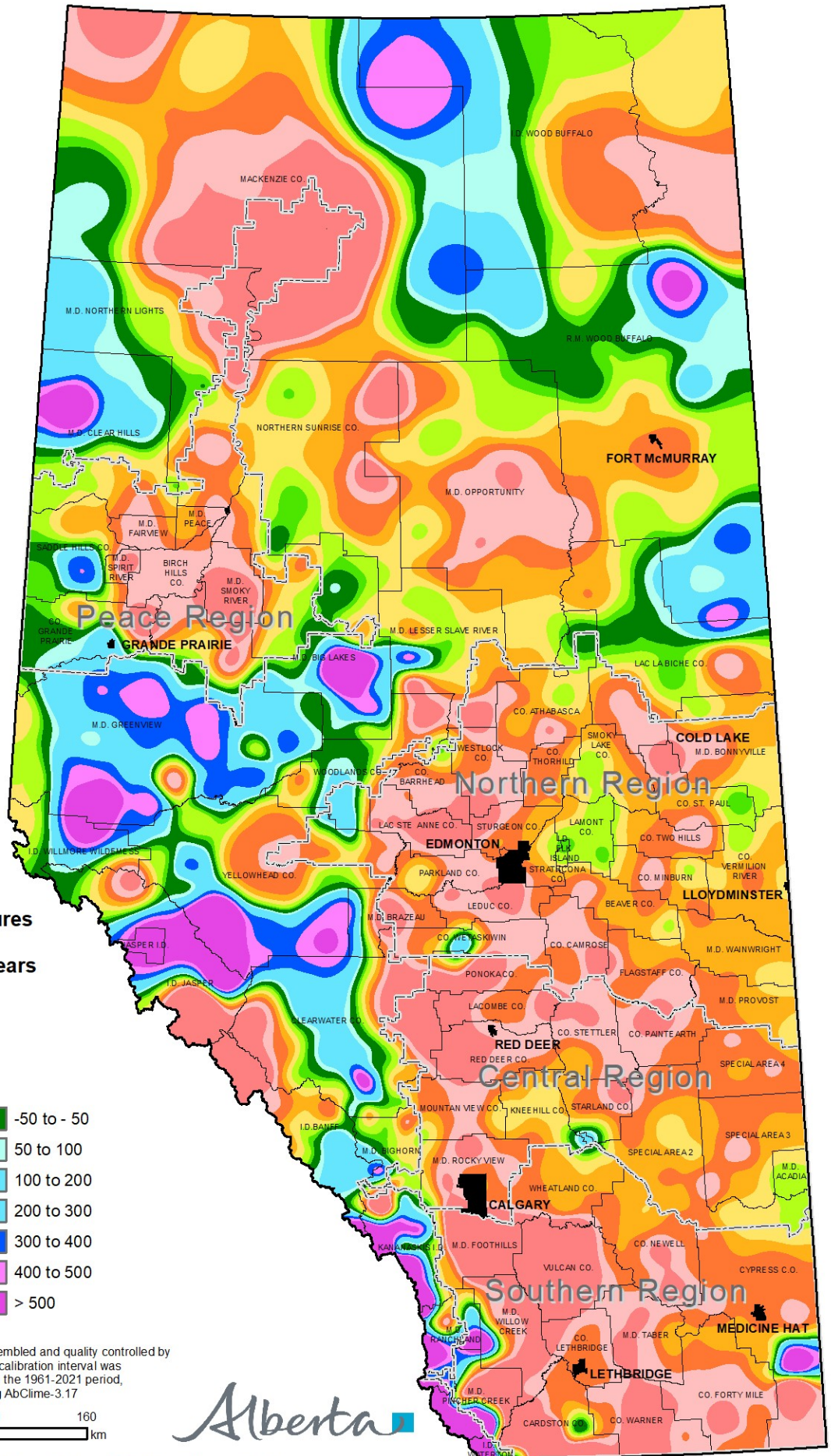
Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The calibration interval was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centers using AbClima-3.11



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on March 13, 2023







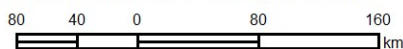
**Precipitation Departures  
Relative to Normal  
During the Past 10-Years**

March 13, 2017 to  
March 12, 2023

**Precipitation (mm)**

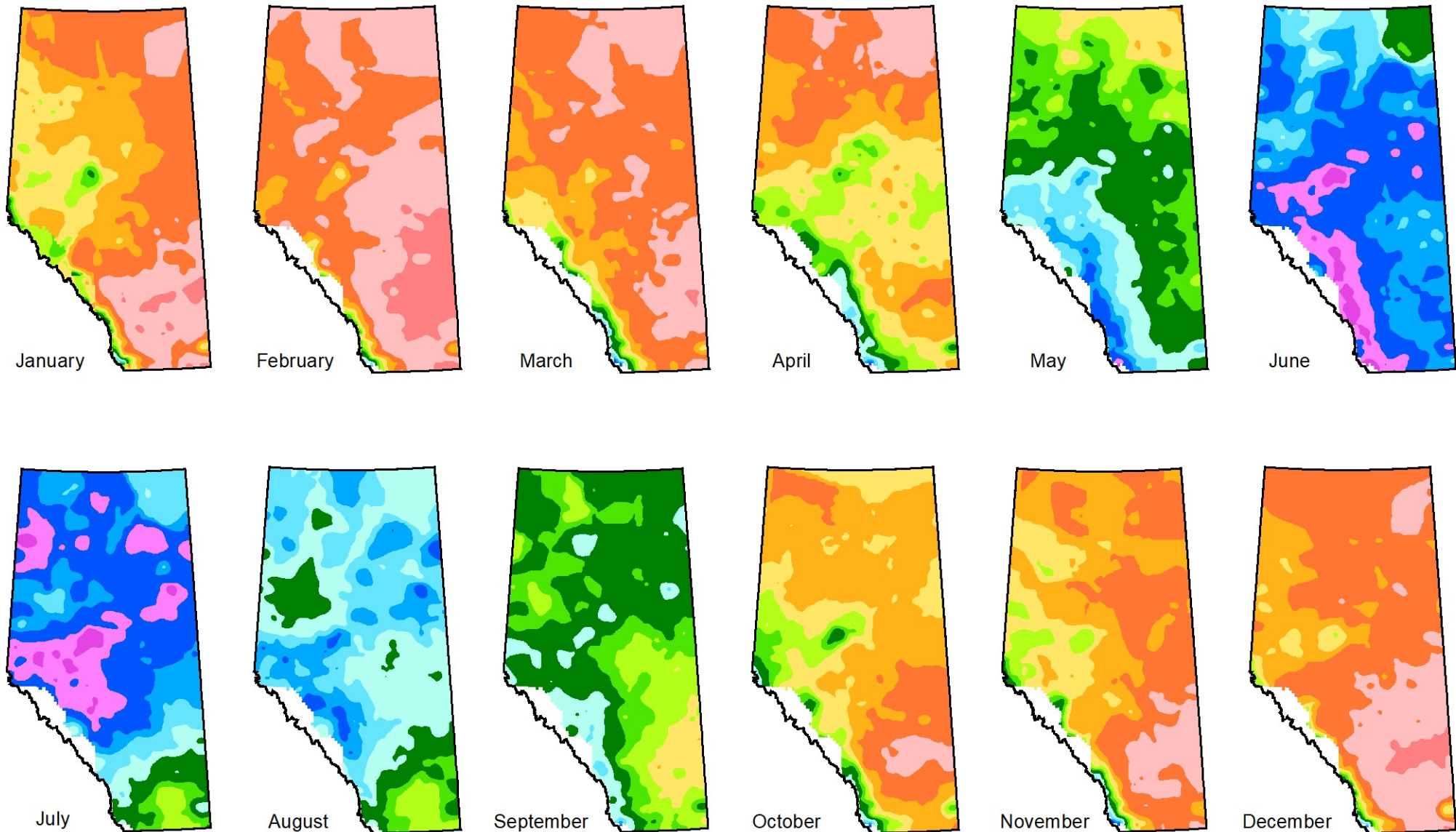
<span style="color: red;">■</span> < -600	<span style="color: green;">■</span> -50 to -50
<span style="color: lightcoral;">■</span> -600 to -500	<span style="color: lightgreen;">■</span> 50 to 100
<span style="color: orange;">■</span> -500 to -400	<span style="color: cyan;">■</span> 100 to 200
<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> -400 to 300	<span style="color: lightblue;">■</span> 200 to 300
<span style="color: gold;">■</span> -300 to 200	<span style="color: blue;">■</span> 300 to 400
<span style="color: limegreen;">■</span> -200 to -100	<span style="color: magenta;">■</span> 400 to 500
<span style="color: green;">■</span> -100 to -50	<span style="color: purple;">■</span> > 500
<span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px;"></span> No Data	

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The calibration interval was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centers using AbClimate-3.17



*Alberta*





## Normal Monthly Precipitation Accumulations

1991-2020

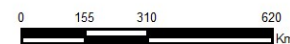
Weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture Forestry and Rural Economic Development then interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6

Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on March 29, 2022

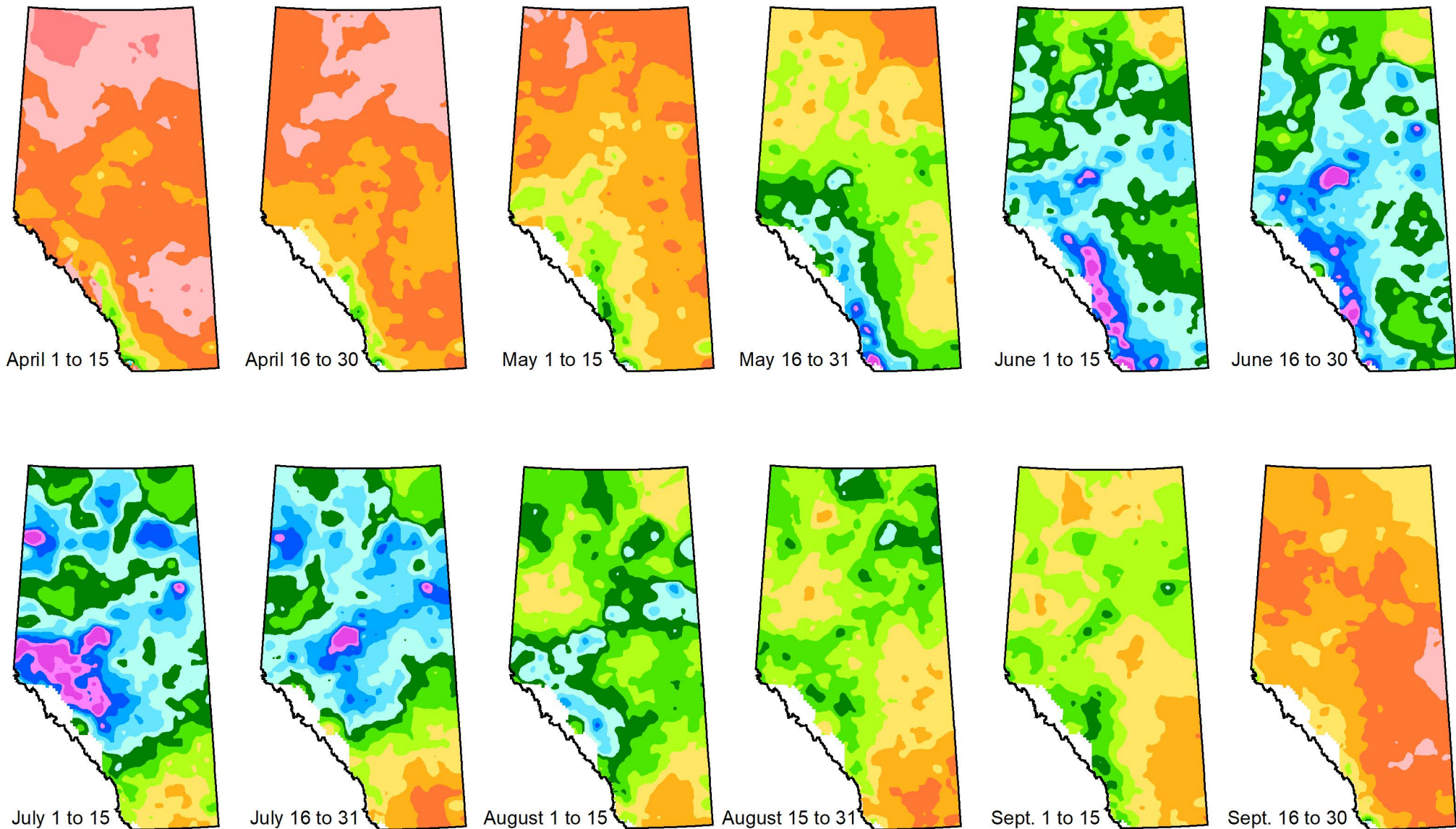
### Precipitation (mm)



200



Alberta



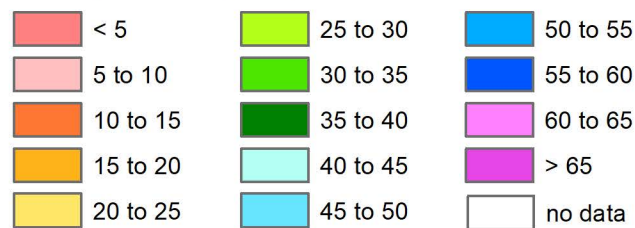
## Normal Semi-Monthly Growing Season Precipitation Accumulations

1991-2020

Weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture Forestry and Rural Economic Development then interpolated to township centres using AbClima-3.6

Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on March 29, 2022

### Precipitation (mm)



Alberta