



A Teacher's Guide to

think
AG

saskatchewan.ca/thinkag | thinkag@gov.sk.ca



Saskatchewan's agriculture industry is full of opportunities – from production, research and processing to manufacturing, finance and everything in between. In fact, the industry accounts for more than 50,000 jobs across the province and it continues to expand– this means there is high-demand for graduates and entrepreneurs today and into the future.

Considering a career in the agriculture and agri-food industry

is the first step to an exciting and rewarding career for your students. This guide is meant to help you introduce agriculture into the classroom by providing the resources you need to discover and explore all the agriculture sector has to offer.

Help us share the abundant and diverse prospects in agriculture with those who will drive its continued success - encourage your students to consider a career in the exciting field of agriculture.





think **OPPORTUNITY**
think **A CAREER IN AG**



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Teaching your Students about Opportunities in Agriculture

thinkAG Career Exploration Resource

In partnership with Agriculture in the Classroom, a new curriculum-based teaching resource has been developed to foster agriculture career discovery. Through personal profiles of young agriculture professionals, students will learn about the diversity of careers options, educational requirements, salary expectations and employment prospects that the sector has to offer.



To access this resource and others to help you teach agriculture in the classroom, visit www.saskatchewan.ca/thinkAG.

Agriculture in the Classroom

Agriculture in the Classroom Saskatchewan provides innovative, curriculum-based programs and resources to help increase students' awareness and understanding of the complexities and importance of agriculture, through partnerships with educators, agribusiness and agriculture organizations.

Visit www.aitc.sk.ca to discover great resources to teach agriculture from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Preparing your Students for a Career in Agriculture

Green Certificate Program

The Green Certificate Program is an apprenticeship style, on-farm skill-training program that provides practical, hands-on training curriculum for agriculture in Saskatchewan. Trainees can acquire skills in one of several agricultural sectors, including field crop and cow-calf production technician.

For more information, please email greencertificate@gov.sk.ca or visit www.saskatchewan.ca/thinkag.

SaskCareers.ca

Saskcareers.ca is Saskatchewan's one-stop shop for anyone planning their future education, career and employment path. Students can learn about themselves and their interests, discover career paths, explore education and training and connect with employment opportunities. It includes Saskatchewan labour market information for 16 industry sectors; career planning tools; access to occupational, high school and post-secondary planners; employer information by region;

responsive e-portfolio; and resources for educators, career practitioners and parents.

Launched in September 2014, this new career exploration tool is funded by the Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy and is free to all Saskatchewan residents - youth, educators, career practitioners, parents, employers.

Experience Agriculture

Providing students with an opportunity to learn first-hand from individuals working in the agriculture industry is extremely beneficial. The Ministry of Agriculture has staff across the province that are ready and willing to help student explore agriculture. They can help set up tours of agri-businesses, arrange classroom presentations or facilitate mentorships with professionals in the industry.

To learn more, please email thinkag@gov.sk.ca or contact your nearest Ministry of Agriculture Regional Office.



Ryan Stack
Canola Origination Manager
Cargill
Processing

thinkAG Career Profiles

To attract youth to a rewarding career in agriculture, the Ministry of Agriculture has launched a new web presence (www.saskatchewan.ca/thinkAG) that

profiles real Saskatchewan people employed in the industry. The following profile is a sample of what the site has to offer.

The world will always need food. It's a simple enough concept, but one that fostered an incredible determination in Ryan Stack to buck the trend of his friends who pursued work in the oil patch. Ryan instead chose a career in agriculture.

After earning his business degree with a major in Sales and Marketing, Ryan applied at Cargill in Calgary, one of North America's largest privately held companies. He applied for an Operations Manager Trainee position, but

didn't get the job. Instead, they asked him to join their sales team and before long he was an Assistant Farm Marketing Representative. Three years later Cargill asked him to lead a team of Canola Origination Merchants, based out of the world's largest canola processing facility in Clavet, Saskatchewan. The opportunity to be part of such an incredible project enticed Ryan to move from his home in Calgary to take advantage of the agricultural opportunities in Saskatchewan.

Now that he has been in Saskatchewan for three years and has recently started his family, Ryan proclaims, "I love it here, there is no place like the Prairies!"

Ryan makes a 30 kilometre commute to Clavet's advanced canola processing plant each day from Saskatoon, where he is now the Manager of Canola Origination. In his job he helps sign canola producers to supply the facility,

but it isn't a simple buyer-seller relationship.

"Farmers take on an incredible amount of risk in hopes of having a good crop," Ryan said. "I'd like to think of us as partners in helping to manage that risk."

"If you don't like change, you're going to hate being obsolete,"

The risks and the challenges in agriculture are very real, with population projections skyrocketing and our ability to feed the world needing to increase. Ryan is both humbled and optimistic about the challenge.

"If you don't like change, you're going to hate being obsolete," said Ryan.

Young enthusiastic people like Ryan Stack add new life and vitality to Saskatchewan's agricultural sector. If the projections are any indication, more professionals like him will be needed for the foreseeable future in this incredibly diverse and growing business sector.



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SCHOLARSHIP

Are you willing to speak up and tell the exciting story of agriculture? **\$10,000** is available for Saskatchewan students entering into agriculture related studies.

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