



AFA in Action

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AFA Newsletter moving to electronic format

You asked, we listened. At our January 2018 Annual General Meeting in Nisku, AFA members told us they wanted to hear from us more often on AFA's position on issues in Canadian

agriculture. To do this, we are moving to this monthly email communication called **AFA in Action**. This is a way for us to share information with you about the issues that affect your farm or ranch operation, while being more cost-effective in our communications. If there are issues you'd like to see us cover in future, just send us an email!

AFA urges Government to pass Bill C-49 with amendments

On April 26, AFA joined Canadian farm groups (Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Keystone Agricultural Producers of Manitoba and the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan) to request the federal government move quickly to stabilize the rail systems by passing Bill C-49 with amendments. An open letter was also sent to Members of Parliament to highlight how critical the Senate amendments are in avoiding future backlogs, creating a more competitive business environment and protecting Canada's reputation as a reliable shipper of quality grain. For the April news release and joint letter, click [here](#). For AFA President Lynn Jacobson's reaction to the news that Bill C-49 was passed, click [here](#).

AFA presents to Senate on climate change

On March 21, 2018, AFA made a presentation to the Senate on climate change and the potential impacts for the agriculture and agri-food sectors. We presented three main areas of impact where farmers will need to adapt, and asked for more research for Alberta's carbon market, plus carbon pricing and levies for agriculture. AFA believes producers must be part of the efforts to counteract these effects, but in a way that maintains our industry's competitive advantage and profitability. To view AFA's March 2018 Senate presentation, click [here](#). AFA presented to the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry on May 22 to discuss Bill C-74 as it pertains to the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act. To view AFA's May 2018 Senate presentation, click [here](#).

AFA-funded Hydrology Model Project complete

AFA's South Saskatchewan River Basin (SSRB) Hydrology Model Project has just wrapped up, creating an innovative computer modelling system to help identify the risk and impacts of overland flooding and drought in agricultural areas. The SSRB Hydrology Model can now be accessed through AFA by governments, academic institutions, private consulting firms and agencies or associations with an interest in water-related issues. We are currently considering giving users access to a web-enabled tool to query a set of model-generated outputs and receive information in an easy-to-access format. Groups interested in specific outputs from the model are encouraged to contact AFA to discuss their interest and potential applications for this state-of-the-art technology.

Free solar energy presentation

If you're interested in solar energy for your farm, join AFA for a **FREE** event **Going Solar Evening** on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 from 4pm - 7pm at the BMO Centre in Calgary. Learn about the programs, processes and case studies that will help you get started with solar technology on the farm. Meet hundreds of exhibitors with the newest technology as part of the *Solar Canada Conference and Exhibition*. This session is by invitation only. To register online, visit: solarcanadainitiative.ca/agriculture.

Recycling agricultural plastics in Alberta

Following a resolution at AFA's 2018 Annual General Meeting, the AFA board has been exploring recycling options for agricultural plastics like grain bags. Kim Timmer of *CleanFarms* spoke at a recent AFA board meeting about the current state of agricultural plastics recycling in Alberta and noted that no single province produces enough recycled agriculture products to make a recycling plant feasible. Despite this being a challenging and complicated issue, several groups are working to find a solution for Alberta. AFA will keep our members updated as we progress with this issue.

Mark Your Calendars for June 26 & 27!

With so much going on in Canadian Agriculture, we are holding a summer meeting for producers to meet with AFA's regional directors and executive, plus other AFA members. We'll discuss issues and opportunities in agriculture at our AFA Summer Council Meeting on June 26 & 27 in Camrose, Alberta. Watch your email, our [website](#) or our [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) channels for more information.

We welcome your feedback!

Have an idea or story to share? Get in touch by emailing AFA's Executive Director, [Shannon Scofield](#).

Email AFA

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