40th Anniversary Celebration
Western Canadian Dairy Seminar

Building on 40 Years of Dairy Extension

March 7 – 10, 2023

Red Deer Resort & Casino, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada

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INTRODUCTION

In 2023, the Western Canadian Dairy Seminar will be celebrating 40 years of providing novel ideas, information, and solutions relevant to current and emerging challenges of the Canadian dairy industry.

Topics covered in this year's Seminar include:

- Sustainable Dairying
- Adopting New Nutrition Technologies
- Healthy Cows, Healthy People
- Emerging Trends
- And More!

In addition to the formal program, the seminar offers ample opportunity for participants to have informal discussions with the speakers and with industry service representatives. Come and meet our sponsors at the trade show.

REGISTRATION

$295 on or before **February 10, 2023**
$345 after February 10, 2023

All those who register by February 10, 2023 will be entered to win 1 of 8 WCDS touques!

Register and pay online by visiting our website.

Or mail the registration form to:
Western Canadian Dairy Seminar
Dept. of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science
4-10 Agriculture/Forestry Centre
University of Alberta
Edmonton AB T6G 2P5

Payment may be made by Visa, MasterCard, American Express or cheque. The Seminar registration fee **does not** include accommodation costs.

LOCATION

Red Deer Resort & Casino (formerly Cambridge Hotel), 3310 – 50th Avenue, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4N 3X9

ACCOMMODATION

The Red Deer Resort & Casino is holding a block of rooms for the Seminar until February 5, 2023. The hotel will continue to accept reservations as long as space is available.

Please state that you are attending the "Western Canadian Dairy Seminar 2023" when making hotel reservations.

Reservations
Phone: (403) 346-2091 or 1-800-662-7197
Email: reservations@rdrcasino.ca

A block of rooms is also being held at nearby hotels (Sandman, Holiday Inn Express, Super 8 by Wyndham). For more information visit our website.

Proceedings: each registrant will receive a complimentary USB copy of the proceedings. Past seminar proceedings can be downloaded and/or ordered from our website.

Note: The Program for the 2023 Western Canadian Dairy Seminar has been approved for **15 hours** of Continuing Education Credits by the **Alberta Veterinary Medical Association** and the **Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association**

For further information phone (780) 293-7440 or email wcds@ualberta.ca

Program

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

For the 2023 WCDS, there will be **no pre-conference tour**. Instead, professionally filmed virtual farm tours will be presented as part of the producer panel on Thursday March 9, 2023. **There will also be no pre-conference workshop.**

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **Registration**

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. **Opening Reception**

*Please join us at our **40th Anniversary Celebration** for cocktails, refreshments and live music*

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Morning Plenary Session – 8:30 am

- Welcome – **Nelson Dinn, University of British Columbia, Chair, WCDS Advisory Committee**
- Introductory Remarks and Conference Overview – **Karin Orsel, University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Chair, WCDS Program Committee**
- **Keynote Speakers**
  The Dynamic World of Agri-Food: A Fireside Chat with **Dianne Finstad and Kim McConnell**

Session I: Sustainable Dairy for Society's Challenges

- Trends and Opportunities in Reducing the Environmental Footprint of Dairy Farms – **Tim McAllister, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada**
- Building Public Trust in Food and Farming – **Kim McConnell, Founder & Former CEO of AdFarm**
- Inbreeding: New Solutions for an Old Problem – **Christine Baes, University of Guelph**

Afternoon Plenary Session – 1:40 pm

Session II: Adopting New Trends/Technologies to Bolster On-Farm Nutrition

- Back to the Future: New Ideas for Today's Dairy Herd Challenges – **Daniel Scothorn, Scothorn Nutrition**
- How Can Automation be Used to Optimize Cow Nutrition? – **Trevor DeVries, University of Guelph**

Session III: Reproduction

- Transition Period Health and Reproduction: Preparing for a Successful Pregnancy – **Stephen LeBlanc, University of Guelph**
- What Activity Monitors Can and Cannot do Today – **Ronaldo Cerri, University of British Columbia**

Evening Banquet Entertainment:

Dueling Pianos (*Banquet is optional. Separate registration required.)*

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Morning Plenary Session – 8:30 am

Session IV: Student Research

- **Student Research Presentation Competition**
  Five graduate students will present their dairy-related research findings.

Session V: Producer Panel

- The Big Change – **Producer Panel Presentations**
  Three dairy farms that have implemented big changes on their operations will be virtually toured followed by a Q&A period

Afternoon Plenary Session – 1:40 pm

Session VI: Preventing Diseases in the Future

- Importance of Selective Antibiotic Use: Drying Off and Clinical Mastitis – **Herman Barkema, University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine**
- Surveillance, prevention and control of Salmonella in dairy cattle in Quebec – **Luc Bergeron, Quebec Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food**

Session VII: Calf Management

- Starting Calves Off Right: Back to the Basics on Colostrum Management – **Sarah Parsons, Alta Genetics**
- Optimizing Health and Welfare in the Pre-Weaned Calf **– Charlotte Winder, University of Guelph**

Cocktail Reception

Announcement of Winners for the Student Research Presentation Competition and the ***new*** Student Poster Competition

Friday, March 10, 2023

Morning Plenary Session – 8:30 am

Session VIII: Healthy Cows, Healthy People

- Wellbeing and Productive Farming **– Cynthia Beck, University of Regina**

Session IX: Emerging Trends

- Minimizing Stress to Enhance Cow Health and Productivity – **Meagan King, University of Manitoba**
- Managing Health and Rumination Data: Getting The Most Out Of Your Technology – **Jake Vermeer, Vermeer's Dairy Ltd**
- Beef on Dairy Crosses: Diversification and Income Potential – **Kee Jim, Feedlot Health Management Services**

Your 2023 Speakers



Keynote Speakers

Dianne Finstad used her farm roots to build what's become a four-decade long communications career in television, radio and writing, specializing in agriculture and rodeo coverage, based in Red Deer. After working in both daily television and radio, Dianne is now a communications specialist, pursuing a wide variety of MC-ing, announcing and reporting opportunities. Dianne diversified her hosting skills during the pandemic, serving as an online moderator for a number of virtual events. She has also started her 'TV career 2.0', hosting Frontline Farming Canada, for RFD-TV Canada. Dianne is board director for Westerner Park in Red Deer, and a board member for Lakeland College.



Kim McConnell was the former CEO of AdFarm and led this Canadian-headquartered agency to become one of the largest and most respected agricultural marketing communications firms in North America. Over the years, Kim led many national and international brand and marketing assignments and has been the catalyst behind many major industry ventures including an initiative to build greater public trust in food and farming. Kim is a director on a number of corporate boards throughout North America, and a director on community organizations including Calgary Stampede Foundation, Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute (CAPI), and the Canadian Centre for Food Integrity.



Christine Baes holds a Canada Research Chair in Livestock Genomics and is Associate Professor in the Department of Animal Biosciences at the University of Guelph. Her research works towards developing sustainable breeding programs that incorporate health, welfare, productivity, and efficiency performance.



Cynthia Beck is an agriculture mental health advocate and a Masters Candidate in the Clinical Psychology program at the University of Regina. She is researching the effects and usability of an online therapy program tailored to agriculture producers. Cynthia and her family operate a mixed cattle and grain farm near Milestone, SK.



Ronaldo Cerri is an Associate Professor in Animal Reproduction at the University of British Columbia and the Director of the UBC Dairy Education and Research Centre. His research aims to discover and develop solutions to fertility issues that affect dairy and beef cattle.



Herman Barkema is a professor in epidemiology of infectious diseases at UCVM and NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Infectious Diseases of Dairy Cattle, with a joint appointment at the Cumming School of Medicine. Dr. Barkema's research program focuses on prevention and control of diseases in cattle herds, including antimicrobial resistance.



Luc Bergeron graduated from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Montreal in 2001. He has been working in animal health surveillance at the Quebec Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food since 2006. He is currently the coordinator of the Bovine Health Surveillance Network.



Trevor DeVries is a Professor and Canada Research Chair in the Department of Animal Biosciences at the University of Guelph. His research program is focused on understanding the links between dairy cow behaviour, nutrition, management, and welfare.



Kee Jim received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) in 1983 from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He is the global head of animal health and agriculture at Feedlot Health Management Services and is the CEO of G.K. Jim Farms.



Stephen LeBlanc is a veterinarian and professor in the department of Population Medicine at the Ontario Veterinary College at the University of Guelph. With graduate students and collaborators, he does field-based research on dairy cow metabolic and reproductive health and management, precision technologies, and antimicrobial stewardship.



Sarah Parsons received her Ph.D. from the University of Guelph, under the supervision of Dr. Trevor DeVries. She now works for Alta Genetics as their Colostrum Technical Specialist where she can combine her experience raising calves and calf knowledge to help improve colostrum and calf management on farms.



Jake Vermeer is a first generation Canadian and farms together with his parents who immigrated to Canada in 1993. He currently sits as an executive on both the Camrose United Conservative Party board and Camrose Reginal Exhibition board. He also sits on the Camrose County Development Committee.



Meagan King is an assistant professor in the Department of Animal Science at the University of Manitoba. With over 10 years of research experience, she has mostly studied cow health and welfare in robotic milking herds. Most recently, she surveyed dairy farmer mental health and how it may be related to farm management and cow health.



Tim McAllister is researcher with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. His research targets ensuring the sustainability of ruminant livestock production systems. His latest effort is on counteracting the misinformation that surrounds ruminant productions systems as the co-host of the "Cows on the Planet" podcast.



Daniel Scothorn is the face of dairy management on LinkedIn and featured as a top contributor to Progressive Dairyman Magazine. Working as a dairy advisor based on the east coast of Canada, he brings global experience, family dairy farm background and a love of science to the Red Deer audience.



Charlotte Winder received her DVM from the University of Guelph and worked in private practice for 6 years before returning for her DVSc. She is now a clinical veterinarian and epidemiologist at the University of Guelph, where her research focuses on improving the health and performance of dairy cattle.

Nominate an individual for the John J. Kennelly WCDS Award of Merit. More details at www.wcds.ca

2023 Western Canadian Dairy Seminar - Registration Form

Name** _____ Company** _____

Address _____

City/Town** _____ Prov/State** _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Email _____ Phone (____) _____

Affiliation: Producer ❒ Industry ❒ Vet ❒ Gov't ❒ Academic ❒ Student ❒ Other ❒ _____

Registration Fees (please list additional people on a separate sheet or email us the details)

- **Note: This information will appear on your **name tag** at the Seminar.
- **The registration fee includes** a copy of the proceedings (USB), five nutrition breaks, two evening receptions, three breakfasts, and two luncheons. All fees include GST.
- For **cancellations** received prior to **February 26, 2023**, registration fees will be refunded minus a $50 administration fee. Cancellations received **after February 26 will not be refunded, but can be substituted.** If you are unable to attend due to illness, registration can be substituted or deferred to 2024.
- For **more information** please contact **Kira Hames**, Conference Coordinator at (780) 492-3236 or wcds@ualberta.ca

	Cost		#		Total
Early Registration (payment must be **received by February 10, 2023**)	$295	x		=	
Late Registration (payment **received after February 10, 2023**)	$345	x		=	
One day registration (specify which day) - Wednesday ❒ - Thursday ❒	$170	x		=	
Friday morning only	$100	x		=	
Student Registration	$85	x		=	
Banquet - Wednesday evening *Please let us know of any special food requirements	$60	x		=	
Proceedings – One copy **included** with registration.					
Additional proceedings on USB	$15	x		=	
			Total fee enclosed		

❖ How did you hear about the WCDS? (e.g. website, word-of-mouth, advert): _____

❖ Is this your first time attending the WCDS?: Yes ___ No ___ If 'No', how many times have you attended?: ___

❒ **Cheque in mail** made payable to ***"Western Canadian Dairy Seminar"***	***Or pay by*** Visa # _____ MasterCard # _____ AMEX # _____ Print Name on Card _____ Expiry Date: _____ Signature: _____ CVS code (on back of card): _____

Register and pay online at www.wcds.ca

OR scan and email completed form to wcds@ualberta.ca, OR fax completed form to (780) 492-4265, OR mail to: Western Canadian Dairy Seminar, Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, 4-10 Ag/Forestry Centre, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2P5 Canada

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Western Canadian Certified Hoof Trimmers Association

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