



Ministry of Agriculture

Regional Services

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February 7, 2022

RM of MEADOW LAKE # 588
Box 668, 203 - HWY 4 Northwest
MEADOW LAKE SK S9X 1Y5

Dear Reeve and Council:

RE: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Ministry of Agriculture is dedicated to providing quality extension to farmers, ranchers and agribusiness across the province. While many in-person learning events weren't possible this past year due to COVID-19, the ministry's regional specialist team wants to raise awareness of the services we provide and the programs available under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year, \$388-million investment by both the federal and provincial government. This year, 2022, is the final year of the five-year program.

The North Battleford regional office has a team of specialists which include:

- Alison Fransoo – Agri-Environmental Specialist
- Patricia Johnson – Agricultural Program Specialist
- Jenifer Heyden – Livestock and Feed Extension Specialist
- Erin Campbell – Crops Extension Specialist
- Andre Bonneau – Range Management Extension Specialist

There are numerous programs that can help farmers, ranchers and agribusiness innovate, prosper and grow in this province. Details about programs can always be found at saskatchewan.ca/CAP or by speaking to our specialists. Additionally, we have created a series of online program presentations that your Rural Municipality and rate payers will find valuable. Each presentation highlights a specific program. These short, fast-paced video presentations explain the programs intent, applicant eligibility, eligible activities and expenses and how to apply. We encourage you to contact one of our specialists to view the presentations. These presentations can be shared with rate payers via email, newsletters, your RM website and social media.

We would like to highlight two recent changes to programming offered by the ministry that might be of interest to your ratepayers. First, the deadline to access the temporary increase in funding up to \$150,000 under the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program for livestock producers is **March 31, 2022**. Projects must be fully constructed and operational for agricultural use before a rebate will be issued. For livestock producers who will not have a fully constructed and operational project by March 31, 2022 and want to access temporary enhanced program funding, the ministry is extending the

enhanced program funding for an additional six months. To access this funding, eligible producers must submit a preliminary application by March 31, 2022 to the ministry. Projects must be fully constructed and submitted for rebate by September 30, 2022.

The ministry is also extending the deadline to submit pre-approval applications for irrigation projects. The deadline for Irrigation Development pre-approval applications has been extended from January 15, 2022 to December 31, 2022. The deadline for Irrigation Environmental Efficiency pre-approval applications has been extended from August 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Applicants will have up to 18 months from written project approval to submit a claim under either program. Applicants are encouraged to apply early and submit their claims as soon as their projects are completed.

Our agri-environmental specialists and agriculture program specialists are equipped with the knowledge and skills to assist producers with the required approvals and technical work to ensure projects follow regulations and eligibility for rebates/funding. We are also able to provide clients with program information and assist producers with their applications at no cost.

If your council would like us to present on the programs and services available, we would be happy to.

We hope you find these resources valuable and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Alison Fransoo, PAg
Agri-Environmental Specialist



Patricia Johnson, PAg
Agricultural Program Specialist