



### ALBERTA AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (AARD) PROGRAMS

#### SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE

**Are you looking for more profit? Do you want to increase your plant's capacity? Do you want to know more about the emerging trend of Lean Manufacturing?**

The Productivity Improvement Project has launched this year's program for supporting assessments and coaching in the areas of:

- Automation/Equipment
- Process Improvement
- Lean Principles

**All designed to save you money and time, increase your production capacity, reduce waste and boost your productivity!**

Support is available for qualified agri-processors:

- 100% of lean pre-assessment
- 80% of lean coaching
- 80% of automation/equipment pre-assessments and in-depth assessments

For more information, contact your Development Officer or Nicola Stevens at [nicola.stevens@gov.ab.ca](mailto:nicola.stevens@gov.ab.ca) or 403-948- 8511

#### Foreign Worker Information

Are you new to the temporary foreign worker program and searching for information on how to complete the Labour Market Opinion application forms? Do you have temporary foreign workers you would like to support through the Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program but are not sure how to get started?

For information on the federal Temporary Foreign Worker program or the Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program, please contact Scott Dundas, Labour Recruitment Manager at 403-340-5369 or email: [scott.dundas@gov.ab.ca](mailto:scott.dundas@gov.ab.ca)

#### WORKSHOPS

##### How to Get Started in Farm Direct Marketing- October 19 How to Sell To Restaurants and Institutions-October 29

These noon hour brown bag sessions are available through Alberta Community Futures locations on video conference. In the first session, you'll learn what it means to be market focused and investigate the step by step development of a farm direct business. The second sessions looks at how to access the foodservice market, identifies what products chefs are looking for and the service you need to provide.

For more information and video conference locations visit the Business Link's website, <http://www.canadabusiness.ab.ca/brownbag.cfm>

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### Innovation Week

*Oct 19-22, 2009, Grand Prairie, AB*

Hosted by the Centre for Research & Innovation (CRI) this celebration includes the Idea to Implementation Business Development workshop, marketing, product development and intellectual property workshops, innovation and entrepreneur forums, and an awards feast.

For workshop information and Awards Feast tickets, contact the CRI at 1-877-539-2808, 780-539-2807 or email [info@theCRI.ca](mailto:info@theCRI.ca)

##### Grocery Innovations 2009 – Toronto, Ontario – October 26-27, 2009

Grocery Innovations 2009 is a trade show where over 6,000 major industry players including independent, franchise and corporate retailers, manufacturers, brokers, wholesalers, distributors and government officials come together to do business. Exhibitors include local producers, first time producers, food and consumer product manufacturers, equipment, technology and service providers, food processors and much more. For more information contact Bill Robinson at [bill.robinson@agr.gc.ca](mailto:bill.robinson@agr.gc.ca) by telephone at (519) 837-5822, or visit the website at:

<http://www.groceryinnovations.com/delegate/features.htm>.

##### WCFN 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

##### Healthy business 09 - Growth and Opportunity

*Nov 3 – 4, 2009, Delta Edmonton South, Edmonton, AB*

Healthy Business 09 will explore growth tactics in a competitive marketplace by sharing information on challenges, success and lessons learned while discussing how integrating opportunity & innovation to help create sustainability and profitability in the functional food & natural health product sector. Respective speakers will share business fundamentals, regulatory issues and bridging the gap between the FFNHP industry and health & wellness professionals. For more information go to [www.wcfn.ca](http://www.wcfn.ca)

Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development  
(Dial 310-0000 for toll-free access)

Crop Business Development Branch – 780-340-5322

Livestock Business Development Branch - 403-556-4321

Local/ Domestic Market Expansion Branch - 780-968-3510

Processing Industry Business Development Branch - 403-340-7625