

Farm families honoured at Red Deer's Westerner Days Fair and Exposition

July 16, 2014

Nineteen pioneering Alberta families who have farmed and ranched the same land for 100 years or more are being recognized by the Government of Alberta with Century Farm and Ranch Awards.

“Alberta’s farmers and ranchers are the backbone of our great province. For more than a century, their pioneering spirit and hard work have paved the way for a thriving agriculture sector and a vibrant rural Alberta. I congratulate all of the families who are receiving awards this year and thank them for their continued dedication to agriculture in our province.”

- Verlyn Olson, Minister, Agriculture and Rural Development

“Receiving this award is a testament of our family’s endurance. It’s an honour for us to be recognized for continuing to build on our family legacy in rural Alberta.”

- Maggie Gamble, award recipient from Buffalo, Alberta

Recipients of the Century Farm and Ranch Award are presented with a bronze plaque to commemorate their significant achievement. A total of 65 families are being recognized across the province this year. This includes 19 families who were recognized in Red Deer on July 16.

Since the Century Farm and Ranch Awards began in 1993, more than 1,400 families have received plaques. A full list of the Century Farm and Ranch Family award recipients can be found on the Agriculture and Rural Development [website](#).

Today, agriculture continues to be the province’s largest renewable industry, with more than 43,000 farms totalling 50.5 million acres.

Under the [Building Alberta Plan](#), our government is investing in families and communities, living within our means, and opening new markets for Alberta's resources to ensure we're able to fund the services Albertans told us matter most to them. We will continue to deliver the responsible change Albertans voted for.

Editor’s note: Photos from the Red Deer event will be posted on [Flickr](#) for media use. Interviews with families can be arranged.

Media inquiries

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Communications

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Backgrounder – Century Farm and Ranch Award recipients available for interviews

Calon Family of Michichi

Chick-Rock Family of Gadsby

Grudecki Family of Acadia Valley

Hanewich Family of Acadia Valley

Hanson Family of Balzac

Huston Family of Lacombe

Jackson and Morel Family of Castor

Long Family of Meadowbrook

Riley Family of Meadowbrook

Skjenna Family of Buffalo

Tomkins Family of Oyen

Wiancko Family of Ponoka

Wilkie Family of Big Valley

Wright-Clark-Fandrick Families of Rocky Mountain House