

Farm families honoured with Century Farm and Ranch Awards

August 1, 2014

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 of Agriculture and Rural Development

"We're pleased to be honoured with this award. My grandparents worked hard to establish the farm, and as third generation farmers, we're proud to continue our family's legacy and contribute to the stewardship of the land."

- George Andrews of Barrhead, award recipient

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 18 families who will be recognized in Camrose on August 2.

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 <u>Building Alberta Plan</u>, 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: On August 2, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Verlyn Olson will be in Camrose to recognize the Century Farm and Ranch Award recipients during an awards luncheon. A photo session that's open to the media will be held between 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Photos from the Camrose event will also be posted on <u>Flickr</u> and post-event interviews with families can be arranged.

Awards luncheon location: Meeting room 2 and 3 (located on second level)

Camrose Recreation Centre

451 - 53 Street

Camrose

Media inquiries

Christiane Evans
christiane.evans@gov.ab.ca
780-422-7682
Communications
Agriculture and Rural Development

Backgrounder – Century Farm and Ranch Award recipients available for interviews

Andrews Family of Barrhead

Chiernyk Family of Rochester

De Zaeyer Family of Rich Valley

Geleta Family of New Kiew

Haddock Family of Peers

Harrison Family of Tomahaw

Hudec Family of Dapp

Kidd Family of Mayerthorpe

Makowichuk Family of Smoky Lake

Mykyte Family of Thorhild

Nusl-Crum Family of Glenevis

Phillips Family of Waskatenau

Stafford Family of Athabasca

Suprovich Family of Smoky Lake

Wanchuk Family of Boyne Lake

Wasylciw Family of Plain Lake area

Wiese Family of Sunniebend