

# Agriculture Opportunity Fund

Promoting the long term sustainability of Alberta's agriculture industry and our rural communities.

## 2015-16 Year in Review

The Agriculture Opportunity Fund (AOF) provided \$1.95 million in funding to 13 partner organizations to deliver agriculture extension and research programs. These partners have reported the estimated economic impact of this investment at \$250 million. Some of the impacts and partner activities as reported are summarized below.

### KNOWLEDGE EXTENSION AND INFORMATION SHARING

- **10,052** producers attended **224** extension events
- **1016** producers attended **seven** conferences
- **941** one-on-one consultations
- **64** newsletter issues published
- Agriculture production information extended to over **50, 910** producers farming over **42,042,122** acres
- One peer-reviewed scientific paper published and **four** more submitted
- **120,079** web hits on partner websites
- **36** AOF partner board members participated in board governance training
- **1077** producers attended **35** field schools
- **142** workshops delivered
- **50** media interviews

### REGIONAL APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION

- **203** applied research projects
- **128** demonstrations of new technologies
- **Nine** partner organizations collected data in **183** sites for the Provincial Pest Monitoring Program
- **13** of 24 Regional Variety Testing sites in Alberta were delivered by AOF partners with final data provided for the 2015 Alberta Seed Guide

### INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT, COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY PROGRAMS

- **119** Agriculture and Forestry staff and **332** other specialists collaborated with nine Applied Research Associations, four Forage Associations and the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta
- partnered with **54** rural counties and municipal districts to deliver agriculture production extension

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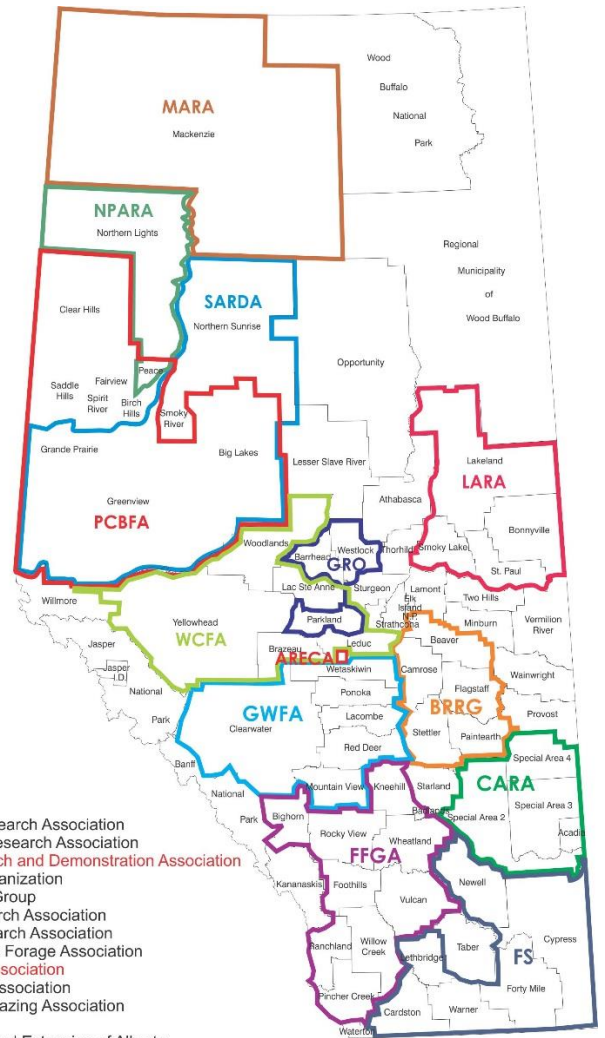
## AGRICULTURE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

- **Eight** partners worked with **25** rural counties and municipal districts to deliver environmental extension programs
- **58** Growing Forward 2 supported workshops
- **24** Environmental Farm Plan workshops
- **37** Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Program projects

## AGRICULTURE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

- Delivered **12** 4-H educational events
- Organized **six** agricultural tradeshow or fairs
- Employed **67** staff employed
- Received **21** staff speaking requests

**AOF Partnership Map**



- MARA - Mackenzie Applied Research Association
- NPARA - North Peace Applied Research Association
- SARDA - Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association
- GRO - Gateway Research Organization
- BRRG - Battle River Research Group
- CARA - Chinook Applied Research Association
- LARA - Lakeland Applied Research Association
- PCBFA - Peace County Beef and Forage Association
- WCFA - West Central Forage Association
- GWFA - Gray Wooded Forage Association
- FGFA - Foothills Forage and Grazing Association
- FS - Farming Smarter
- ARECA - Agricultural Research and Extension of Alberta