



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FEBRUARY 8TH, 2025**  
**EDMONTON, ALBERTA**  
**RIVER CREE RESORT & CASINO**





ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

## WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE ?

**INSPIRING**  
*Vibrancy*  
IN ALBERTA COMMUNITIES

- Advocating for Agricultural Societies (Ag)
- Providing resources, services, programs, and opportunities for our members
- Providing education for members, government, industry, and the public
- Partnering with Government
- Strengthening the role and presence of Agricultural Societies in Alberta

### VISION

**AAAS inspires**

*Vibrancy*

**in Alberta Communities**

### MISSION

*Education, Facilitation and collaboration creates opportunities that empower Agricultural Societies, Inspiring Rural Alberta to reach its highest potential.*

### VALUES

*Excellence in direction and execution. Success through collaboration. Motivation through education and engagement. Advocacy through example. Dedicated to strengthen Agricultural Societies and their communities.*

### GOALS

#### **ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Effective, Consistent Improvement, Innovative, Continual Leadership, & Legacy-Longevity

#### **Focus Areas**

- Board Governance - Succession Planning
- Board - New Membership Recruitment
- Staff - Capacity Building
- Foundation - MOU & Operational Alignments

#### **RURAL ADVANCEMENT**

Community, Stability, Growth, Diversification, Attractant, Renewal, Vision, & Engagement

#### **Focus Areas**

- Leadership Training - Expand Online Training Modules
- Diversification - New Programming
- Volunteering - Provincial Wide Campaign
- Funding Model - Preserve & Grow

# 2025 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

**Saturday, February 8, 2024**

River Cree Resort & Casino  
Edmonton, AB

## **1. Call to Order**

- 1.1 Establish Quorum
- 1.2 Approval of Standing Rules of Order

## **2. Approval of the Agenda**

## **3. Approval of the 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes**

## **4. Presidents Report – Brett Warder**

## **5. Chief Executive Officer Report – Tim Carson**

## **6. Treasurer's Report – Natasha Dombrosky**

## **7. Auditors Report/Statement**

- 7.1 2023/2024 Audited Statement – Presented by Doyle & Company
- 7.2 Appointment of Auditor

## **8. Agriculture & Irrigation Report**

## **9. Other Business**

- 9.1 Resolutions
  - No Resolutions
- 9.2 Motions from 2024 annual meeting
  - No motions from 2024 annual meeting
- 9.3 Convention 2026

## **10. Discussion from the floor**

## **11. Introductions of Newly Elected AAAS Directors**

- 11.1 Region 2 (3-year term)
- 11.2 Region 3 (3-year term)
- 11.3 Region 4 (3-year term)
- 11.4 Service Member (3-year term)

## **12. Call for Adjournment**

# 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

# STANDING RULES OF ORDER

1. Except as specified in these Standing Rules of Order or in the AAAS Bylaws, the rules or procedure at this meeting shall be governed by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order (10th edition, 2000)
2. Only Persons entitled to vote may make motions, debate and vote
3. No person may speak until recognized by the Chair. To obtain recognition the member shall go to the microphone and raise a voting card. After recognition the member shall first state his/her name.
4. Members who wish to second a motion shall do so by raising their voting cards and provide their name and At Society.
5. Speeches shall be limited to two minutes
6. No member may speak more than once to a motion unless no other member indicates a desire to speak.
7. All motions shall be in writing and given to the recording secretary, prior to the member speaking to the motion.
8. Debate on motions is limited to ten (10) minutes after the motion is stated by the Chair. Each speaker in the debate has two (2) minutes to speak. The Chair shall advise when two (2) minutes are remaining on the debate of the motion. At that time the mover may close. Motions to extend debate shall be made before the ten (10) minutes have expired and are made for ten (10) additional minutes. Motions to extend require two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting for adoption.
9. Members shall display their voting cards clearly when voting.
10. Changes to membership fees may only be made upon the recommendation from the Board; require notice of changes to be mailed with the notice of the Annual General Meeting; and require 75% of those present and voting.

**Minutes 2024 Annual Meeting**  
**Saturday February 3, 2024**  
**River Cree Resort & Casino – Enoch, AB**

1. Call to order: Brett Warder - 3:20 pm

1.1 Establish Quorum: Yes

1.2 Approval of standing rules of order: Fred Young - Darlene Corriveau 2nd – carried

1.3 Regrets: Nicole Templeton Region 4 Director

2. Approval of Agenda: Motion to amend the Agenda to have the title read “ 2024 Annual Meeting”, and the date to “February 3, 3024” - Jackie Tomayer- Linda Toews 2nd- carried

3. Approval of 2023 AGM Minutes: Rebecca Green - amendment to point 9 to read “50 of 69 Ag Societies in favour” - Petra Klempnauer 2nd - carried

4. President’s report: Brett Warder- available upon request and in delegate package

5. Chief Executive Officer Report: Tim Carson - available upon request and in delegate package

6. Treasurer Report: Natasha Dombrosky - available upon request and in delegate package  
Motion to approve 3 reports as presented - Rebecca Green - Jackie Tomayer 2<sup>nd</sup> - Carried

7. Auditors’ Report Statement:

7.1 2022/2023 Audited Statement - Presented by Doyle and Co. Scott Mockford - report available upon request and in delegate package

7.2 Appointment of Auditor - Natasha Dombrosky - Motion to appoint Doyle and Co. for the 23/24 year - Rick McCarthy 2nd - Carried

8. Agriculture & Irrigation - Carmen Andrew

9. Other Business

9.1 Resolutions - No Resolutions

9.2 Motions from 2023 annual meeting - No motions from 2023 annual meeting

9.3 Convention 2025 - Last year of contract for 2025 January 30th, Feb 31st, Feb 1st - theme to come - hoping to involve membership in shaping the conference - looking for committee members to grow and improve

10. Discussion from the Floor -

Justin Clark - would like to see the convention on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and is concerned about the minors accessibility to the Venue.

11. Introductions of newly elected AAAS Directors

11.1 Region 1 (3 year term) Petra Klempnauer

11.2 Region 5 (3 year term) Natasha Dombrosky

11.3 Region 6 (3 year term) Audrey Hewings

12. Call for adjournment: Brett Warder 3:47pm

# 2024 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## **Brett Warder**

President, Alberta Association  
of Agricultural Societies

As President of the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (AAAS), I am pleased to present our 2024 Annual Report for the AGM package. This year has been both challenging and rewarding, with natural disasters such as droughts, fires, and floods testing the resilience of our communities. However, our agricultural societies once again demonstrated their unwavering commitment to their regions, stepping up to support those in need. The demand for AAAS member services reached an all-time high, with strategic planning, governance training, and conflict resolution support leading the way.

Financially, AAAS faced significant challenges due to the rising costs of delivering essential services. The board recognized the importance of continuing in-person programs and providing escalated support to agricultural societies despite financial constraints. Unfortunately, applications for federal and provincial funding were not successful, emphasizing the need for innovative revenue-generation strategies moving forward. Our organization remains committed to exploring all options to ensure the sustainability of our programs. In response, we have begun evaluating alternative funding models and partnerships to continue offering vital support to our members. While the provincial government's focus on the commissioned study has temporarily delayed funding decisions for AAAS, we remain optimistic that our advocacy will lead to positive changes in the long term.

The year 2024 was also significant for strategic planning within AAAS. Our Board engaged in a comprehensive 2 ½-day facilitated session, resulting in the approval of a new strategic plan in June. This process ensures that all directors actively contribute to shaping AAAS's direction, aligning our priorities with the evolving needs of our members. The insights gained from this year's challenges will be instrumental in guiding our next steps, reinforcing our mission to serve and strengthen Alberta's agricultural societies. We look forward to another year of collaboration, innovation, and advocacy as we continue to champion the incredible work of our members across the province.

I would like to thank all our Board members for their commitment over the last two years during my term as President. I look forward to seeing what the new President and elected board will do for the Amazing Agriculture Societies within Alberta.

# 2024 TREASURER'S REPORT

## **Natasha Dombrosky**

Treasurer, Alberta Association of  
Agricultural Societies

On behalf of AAAS, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Doyle and Company for once again presenting our financial statements. Your ongoing support and expertise continue to provide valuable insights that help us manage our resources effectively.

As we close out 2024, we are excited to reflect on the opportunities that lie ahead in 2025. As Tim shared in his Year in Review message, AAAS is on the cusp of many new projects. The partnerships we have established and are continuing to grow will provide our membership with invaluable tools to foster growth and success within their local organizations. We are particularly enthusiastic about the continued partnership with Alberta Counsel and their assistance in locating grant opportunities which have been assisting our local groups with completing many projects that were on their wish lists for years. One of the main grants being taken advantage of being the Infrastructure Revitalization Program which provides \$2.5 Million/year to support major repairs at existing agricultural facilities.

At AAAS, we are proud to maintain a high standard of clarity and accountability in all our operations, whether through in-person or online meetings. The integration of Zoom meetings has proven to be a valuable tool, allowing for efficient monthly updates from the staff and enabling us to better allocate time during in-person sessions. Zoom has also made it easier for board members who are unable to attend in person to remain engaged, ensuring that we continue to benefit from their input and presence. Our office staff remains diligent in preparing reports for the board's monthly review, while expense tracking and bill payments are carefully reviewed by the CEO and Treasurer/President for validation. As always, these processes are audited annually by the team at Doyle and Company, ensuring transparency and accountability. Should any issues arise, they are addressed promptly, allowing for timely adjustments when needed.

# 2024

## AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION RURAL PROGRAMMING TEAM

# ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES PROGRAM REPORT

### **Agriculture and Irrigation Agricultural Societies Program Overview**

Agriculture and Irrigation's (AGI) Rural Programming Team (Monika Warring, Colin Gosselin and Carmen Andrew) have two main roles and responsibilities with the Agricultural Societies program:

- Ensuring compliance with the Agricultural Societies Act – focused on governance and regulatory reporting requirements.
- Administering the Agricultural Societies Grant Program and the Agricultural Society Infrastructure & Revitalization Program to seven regional and 284 primary agricultural societies.

While AGI works closely with the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (AAAS), our roles and responsibilities are very different.

- AGI is the regulator (annual returns, bylaws, and grant approvals) and the grant manager.
- AAAS is a resource for workshops, best practice recommendations, coaching and facilitation and advocacy to government.

### **Regional Agricultural Societies Sustainability Assessment**

In response to concerns raised by regional agricultural societies about increasing costs and operational pressures, AGI contracted Deloitte, a third-party consultant to conduct a Regional Agricultural Societies Sustainability Assessment of the seven regional agricultural societies.

Deloitte submitted the final report on the Regional Agricultural Sustainability Assessment to AGI in the Fall of 2024. The final report included an analysis and recommendations that will help the Government of Alberta to better understand the complex challenges that these organizations face. The recommendations presented in the report are all under consideration and will be used to inform

future policy decisions.

While the focus of this assessment was on the regional agricultural societies, AGI recognizes that primary agricultural societies are also experiencing similar challenges and concerns. AGI is currently examining how it can best work with the primaries to address those concerns.

### **Agricultural Society Infrastructure & Revitalization Program**

Agricultural Society Infrastructure & Revitalization Program provides annual capital funding to help agricultural societies make major repairs to existing infrastructure.

The 2024 intake for Agricultural Society Infrastructure & Revitalization Program opened in June and was fully subscribed in days. In total, thirty-seven projects were funded.

Project applications included:

- roof replacement,
- arena dressing room renovations,
- condenser upgrades/replacement,
- siding on hall,
- painting, and repairing walls,
- parking lot resurfacing,
- dance hall painting,
- LED lighting,
- fencing,
- wheelchair accessibility improvements,
- commercial kitchen updates,
- security,
- grandstand renovations, and
- other facility renovations.

We look forward to the 2025 intake and will share more details once the program is open.

### **2025 Operating Grants**

All agricultural societies should have copies of the annual return and grant applications to be completed and submitted by February 15, 2025.

#### **2025 Agriculture and Irrigation Grant Support to AAAS**

- 2025 Alberta Open Farm Days Grant – A one-year grant agreement of \$100,000 with AAAS has been approved for support for the Open Farm Days Program. This program continues to be a valuable initiative that allows consumers to experience an authentic Alberta farm to better understand where their food comes from.

- 2025 Board Recovery Grant – A one-year grant of \$75,000 was approved for AAAS to support board governance, conflict management and one-on-one training and facilitation for agricultural societies. Proactive capacity building by AAAS helps to improve board governance and manage conflict.

### **Agricultural Society Innovation Award**

The Agricultural Society Innovation Award pilot program was created in 2020 to recognize agricultural societies who showed significant initiative and resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic. This award, now in its fourth year, showcases innovation and resilience in our rural communities. The 2024 recipients will be recognized at the AAAS Convention.

### **Board Governance Challenges and Opportunities**

AGI recognizes that agricultural societies excel because of diverse and dynamic leadership. That's why the Rural Programming Team continues to work collaboratively with AAAS to assist agricultural societies through ongoing challenges and opportunities. We are happy to work with your teams to develop policy and procedures and help your teams successfully navigate board growth.

Please contact Carmen Andrew, Director of Rural Programming, at [carmen@gov.ab.ca](mailto:carmen@gov.ab.ca) for more information.

### **Are you signed up for Agri-News?**

Published each Monday, Agri-News covers the latest on all things agriculture in Alberta. Find news on livestock, crops and markets, research, food and beverage production, and programs and events. Sign up to receive the weekly newsletter at [alberta.ca/agri-news](http://alberta.ca/agri-news).

## **Carmen Andrew**

Director, Rural Programming  
Section, Agriculture and  
Irrigation

# 2023-2024 CEO REPORT

## **Tim Carson**

CEO, Alberta Association of  
Agricultural Societies

2023 – 2024 was a very interesting and challenging year for AAAS and our members. Drought, fires, floods all contributed to the diversity of hurdles, but as usual the Agricultural Societies were up to the challenge as was AAAS.

This past year saw the highest demand for AAAS member services ever. Strategic planning topped the list followed closely by governance training and conflict support. I personally visited 26 Agricultural Societies travelling more than 24,000 km and spending nearly 100 days on the road. I find this work to be incredibly rewarding but all encompassing. Many of the conversations and some of the meetings included the department staff. Carmen Andrew and company have been very supportive of the members and have collaborated with AAAS to successfully navigate through some of the most difficult challenges. Unfortunately, the cost of providing these services and other critical components of AAAS programming has escalated beyond the income we receive. This is reflected in our financial statement. The AAAS board recognizes the value of these programs to our ag societies and agreed to proceed with the escalated support until our year end.

The organization is now looking at options for the continuation of the in-person programs which will include innovations to revenue generation. There were several applications to the federal and provincial governments requesting new program support, unfortunately, these were not successful. AAAS will continue to explore all options to effectively and efficiently support Agricultural Societies.

This year also marked a significant effort by our regional ag societies to advocate for additional support. As always AAAS's position for additional support referenced all our members. Whether we are speaking of our largest member, the Calgary Stampede, our 7 regional members, or the 284 primary ag societies, the impacts of these amazing organizations are critical to the communities they serve. As a result of this advocacy, Minister RJ Sigurdson commissioned a study of the regional ag

societies. At the time of this report the results of the report and the actions that might be taken have not been revealed. Unexpected consequences of the focus of the Alberta government and the study are that until a direction has been decided by the Minister, funding for AAAS to support our members will not go forward. We continued to work on the strategies set out by our Board and the current strategic plan. AAAS creates and implements a 3-year strategic plan every 2 years. This process ensures all directors can be part of the strategic planning process, allowing AAAS to pursue an appropriate direction. 2024 was such a year. The board embarked on a 2 ½ day facilitated strategic planning process. The new strategic plan was approved at the June Board meeting.

The following is an update on our progress reaching the goals of the previous strategic plan.

## **Relevance & Growth**

**Membership Value & Services** – AAAS is constantly looking for opportunities to increase membership value. In 2024 we were able to continue with our high value partnership services to our members. Our alliances with NFP, Peavey, Alberta Council, ACCA, RMA, and others have expanded AAAS's capacity to serve our members with diverse opportunities. Benefits, scholarships, professional grant writing, professional services, and more have been accessible at reduced costs and are member specific.

AAAS also began the process to update the data from our members. The study ensures we have the most accurate and current information on the status of the primary Ag Societies. This critical information is utilized in all our advocacy efforts. 40 members donated \$27,265 in support of the completion of part one (\$34,000) of the study. Richard Hudson was able to provide AAAS with an analysis of information provided by 191 Ag Societies who provided access to their information. The study conclusions suggested the primary Agricultural Societies remained active and viable. The challenges of rising expenses are being met, however there is no opportunity for growth.

- For the 191 Ag Societies reporting in 2015 and 2022 the proportion of actively earned revenue to cumulative grants they received was 2.17:1, up from 2.03:1 in 2015.
- Actively earned revenue is up more than \$3.0 Million in 2022 – from \$27.1 Million in 2015 to \$30.3 Million in 2022.

- Cumulative grants received by Ag Societies reporting in both 2015 and 2022 are relatively unchanged – from \$13.4 in 2015 to \$14 Million in 2022. However, cumulative Local Government grants for those Ag Societies have increased by more than \$1.0 million.

Further discussion will be taking place by the AAAS board to complete the study to ensure AAAS's future efforts are directed in the appropriate directions.

AAAS will continue to look for ways to enhance the value of our organization to our members and Alberta.

**Annual conference & AGM** – The 2024 annual conference and AGM was a success, with 415 delegates (17% increase) from 109 Alberta Ag Societies. This number also includes Ag Societies from Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. Our tradeshow was attended by 50 unique vendors from across the province. The event program was well received, and the feedback was very positive.

**Leadership & Training** – The association continues to expand our educational footprint to meet the needs of our members. There are many in-person workshops provided annually. These include, but are not limited to, Governance workshops, Strategic Planning workshops, Orientations, Ag Society 101, and more. We have also been called to provide in-person conflict management for members struggling with roles & responsibilities of board or committee members. We provide advice and interpretation for bylaws and policies through our office.

There are also dedicated education programs specifically designed for the average volunteer, to assist in building their capacity as a board member. This greatly improves the resiliency of the organization.

AAAS launched the Certified Volunteer Board Member (CVBM) online program in 2023. The program provides foundational governance education for volunteer board members. To date we have had 78 registrations in the game-based education program. The partnerships to promote the program are still in their infancy, however the feedback from those who have taken the program has been very positive. We continue to anticipate exponential growth throughout 2025. AAAS has created a "Financial Literacy" pillar in our pursuit to enhance the capacity of our Ag Societies and potentially reduce costs. The development of a new game-based "Bookkeeping" course as well as Board financial training was included in a grant request as part of a significant support program. Unfortunately, this request was denied. AAAS will continue to seek ways to bring this innovative program to life.

**Programs & Events** – AAAS has a long history of providing relevant programming and events that encourage and inspire our members to actively participate. These diverse offerings provide great opportunity, for not only the Agricultural Societies, but the communities they serve, to enhance their own vibrancy.

Alberta Open Farm Days (OFD) 2024 was the 12th year for the program. OFD is a remarkable program that has many impacts for Alberta. OFD is an education platform for citizens to understand where their food comes from and how diverse and incredible Alberta's agriculture industry is. OFD is also a rural small business incubator program providing education, support, and marketing, for aspiring entrepreneurs is the Agri-tourism sector. In 2024 there were 152 unique experiences across Alberta. This included 22 Agricultural Societies. There was more than \$300,000 in on farm spending reported for the 2-day event and over 52,000 people reported participating by visiting a host site. The continuation of this amazing opportunity provides urban and rural people alike the chance to experience all our great province has to offer as we showcase our communities.

To further the opportunity for members to provide unique, relevant, and inspiring safety programming, AAAS has developed the "I'm Ok – The Cost of Injuries" series. This innovative series utilizes augmented reality to tell the story of being "Ok" after an injury or close call. The unconventional delivery of the information targets 13 – 30-year-old people to educate them on the cost of unsafe practices. The 3 shows, Tractor Rollover, Falls, and Voltage can be delivered as part of your fair, rodeo, event. They can also be delivered in schools. The 14' x 8' high-definition video wall provides life like imagery for the live actor to engage with. Immersing the viewer into the moment. We have seen nothing like it, anywhere. We have begun tentatively booking these experiences for the summer of 2024. After an extensive process of hiring and training the contract staff necessary to execute the program we were ready for the show to hit the road. Unfortunately, the program saw limited activity as it was only out for 7 days this year. The lack of activity created challenges in accessing our contractors as they need to find more full-time work. We requested support to deliver 30 show days per year (90 + performances) at a reduced cost to the AG Society. Unfortunately, the grant application was denied. AAAS continues to look at the most cost-effective way to present this unique safety program to as many people as possible.

## Rural Development

**Stakeholder Relations & Advocacy** – The government of Alberta continues to be a terrific partner and stakeholder in the success of AAAS and our members. Carmen Andrew, Colin Gosselin, and Monika Warring work collaboratively with AAAS to manage challenges and support each other. Our relationship has been tremendously important, and I thank them for their dedication and commitment to the Agricultural Societies. AAAS fosters relations throughout government and in the political arena. We have had meetings with Ministers officially and unofficially. We have met with deputy Ministers officially and unofficially. We continue to have positive relationships with GoA staff throughout many departments.

Travel Alberta is another entity we have constant contact with. The OFD program is also supported by them as well as many of our members through their funding allocations.

Our corporate partners are instrumental in the continued success of AAAS. Although many would refer to these champions as sponsors, we consider all of them true partners, sharing values and goals for the advancement of Agricultural Societies and the communities that surround them. Organization like these serve as a reminder of the impact thriving business has in Alberta.

The devastating wildfires that ravaged Alberta and Canada impacted so many. Our Agricultural Societies were there to help in any way they could. Facilities, connection, volunteers, etc. what an immense sense of pride. AAAS shared the stories throughout social media as these dedicated volunteers and diverse facilities activated to provide services that may not have been available otherwise. I huge amount of gratitude for the efforts of our members in serving Albertans.

AAAS continues to collaborate with the other provincial associations across Canada as well as the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (CAFÉ) of the changes to the Livestock Traceability program. CAFÉ and the provincial association representatives have met with the federal government on several occasions to discuss the matter as well as the national feedback. I am pleased to report that we have come to an agreement that the Ag Societies and fair industry will be exempt from the newest regulation additions to the program. Currently the new proposal has not made it to the Government of Canada for approval. With the political turmoil at hand, we are not sure when this may take place. Other areas AAAS has

been providing a high level of advocacy are the 4H Canada – Third Party Agreement renegotiation, Carbon Tax Rebate for Not-for- Profits. AAAS will continue to stay informed of the issues challenging our members and respond accordingly.

**Ag Society Funding** – AAAS advocacy for our members is supported by data and information provided directly for our member. Our marketing materials are designed to be informative and influential. We speak with government officials on the impacts of our members to business, community, and Alberta in general.

**Infrastructure Renewal Strategy** – AAAS has had the infrastructure renewal as part of the strategic plan for several years. There have been countless conversations with federal government, provincial government, municipal government, and even with corporate partners. Much of this conversation appeared to have little effect on the decision makers. We were very excited to be a small part of the development of the new “Infrastructure Grant” for Ag Societies presented this fall. \$2.5 million dedicated annual support to Ag Societies to maintain current facilities. To date 71 Agricultural Societies have been supported by the program. AAAS will continue to advocate for an extended program and possible increases to the funds available.

**Initiatives** – In April of 2024 a new board of directors was elected to take of the Canadian Foundation for Food and Agriculture Education (CFFAE). This amazingly dedicated group of individuals have created a clear vision forward for the foundation. There has been a memorandum of understanding created which establishes a strong connection between the CFFAE and AAAS. There is also an operating agreement for AAAS to provide administrative services to the foundation. The two organization will actively look for collaborative opportunities to increase each others impact to Albertans.

AAAS has been requested to look at the opportunity to continue the Alberta Farm Family Awards. This program was organized by Edmonton Northlands and then Explore Edmonton. Explore Edmonton has chosen not to continue with the program and AAAS has been identified as having the potential to take it over. The AAAS Board and staff will be looking at this opportunity in 2025.

Alberta Youth Agriculture Speaker Awards contacted AAAS with the hopes that we may include this program as part of our annual conference. AAAS strongly supports youth leadership development and believes this program would be a good fit into the AAAS field of collaborations. AAAS will be exploring this opportunity in 2025.

## **Team**

I am very grateful to have the leadership of a board who embraces innovation and a broad-based approach to supporting membership. I thank them for their continued trust in me as the CEO, to deliver on their strategic direction.

None of this would be possible without the amazing team of all-star people supporting me. Suzanne, Chris, and Doug all bring exceptional talents to the table everyday. Their passion and hard work are the reason we continue to grow. Our special project people, Tannis, and Nikky, continue to elevate our unique programs with professionalism and innovation. We are extremely pleased to include the addition of Cameo Hanlon and Best Marketing Co. as our newest addition to the AAAS Team of contractors. Cameo and her team will elevate AAAS and Open Farm Days across our media channels and beyond. They are all an integral part of AAAS and I am blessed to work with the entire team.

As you see this amazing Board and Team during the convention, or engage with them throughout the year, please thank them for vision and efforts.

I look forward to serving all of you in the year ahead.

**Tim Carson**

CEO of Alberta Association of  
Agricultural Societies

**Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies**  
**Financial Statements**  
**October 31, 2024**

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

### **To the Members of Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies**

#### **Qualified Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (the "Association"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at October 31, 2024, and the statements of operations, change in net assets, operations and cash flows for the years then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion paragraph, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies as at October 31, 2024, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit Associations.

#### **Basis for Qualified Opinion**

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies derives revenue from donations the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenue was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Association and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donation revenue, excess of revenue over expenses, current assets and net assets.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

#### **Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit Associations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing these consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to a going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

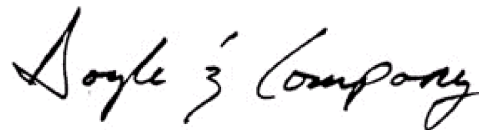
#### **Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT - continued

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than from one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



January 23, 2025  
11210 - 107 Avenue NW  
Edmonton, Alberta T5H 0Y1

**Chartered Professional Accountants**

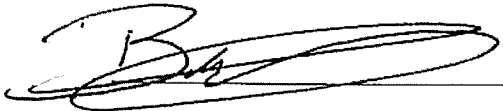
# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Statement of Financial Position

As at October 31, 2024

|                                                   | 2024     | 2023     |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
|                                                   | \$       | \$       |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                     |          |          |
| <b>Current assets</b>                             |          |          |
| Cash (Note 5)                                     | 9,948    | 135,100  |
| Accounts receivable (Note 3)                      | 89,349   | 15,749   |
| Prepaid expenses                                  | 19,285   | 32,363   |
| Inventory                                         | 2,513    | 3,858    |
|                                                   | 121,095  | 337,070  |
| <b>Long Term Investments (Note 2)</b>             | 150,000  | 150,000  |
| <b>Capital Assets (Note 4)</b>                    | 58,856   | 78,162   |
|                                                   | 329,951  | 415,232  |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>                 |          |          |
| <b>Current liabilities</b>                        |          |          |
| Line of Credit (Note 6)                           | 15,027   | -        |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 7) | 49,869   | 21,441   |
|                                                   | 64,896   | 21,441   |
| <b>Deferred Contributions (Note 8)</b>            | 110,336  | 140,309  |
| <b>Unamortized Capital Contributions (Note 9)</b> | 35,625   | 51,714   |
|                                                   | 210,857  | 213,464  |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                                 |          |          |
| Unrestricted                                      | (41,107) | (15,093) |
| Internally restricted (Note 10)                   | 136,971  | 190,413  |
| Equity in Capital assets (Note 11)                | 23,230   | 26,448   |
|                                                   | 119,094  | 201,768  |
|                                                   | 329,951  | 415,232  |

Approved by the Board:



Director



Director

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

For the year ended October 31, 2024

|                                      | Equity in<br>Capital Assets<br>(Note 11)<br>\$ | Internally<br>Restricted<br>(Note 10)<br>\$ | Unrestricted<br>\$ | 2024<br>\$ | 2023<br>\$ |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| Net assets, beginning of year        | 26,448                                         | 190,413                                     | (15,093)           | 201,768    | 227,718    |
| Deficiency of revenues over expenses | -                                              | -                                           | (82,674)           | (82,674)   | (25,950)   |
| Transfers                            | -                                              | (53,442)                                    | 53,442             | -          | -          |
| Amortization                         | (19,307)                                       | -                                           | 19,307             | -          | -          |
| Change in deferred capital asset     | 16,089                                         | -                                           | (16,089)           | -          | -          |
| Net assets, end of year              | 23,230                                         | 136,971                                     | (41,107)           | 119,094    | 201,768    |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Statement of Operations

For the year ended October 31, 2024

|                                                                  | 2024             | 2023             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                                                  | \$               | \$               |
| <b>Revenue (Schedule 1)</b>                                      |                  |                  |
| Memberships                                                      | 134,954          | 94,600           |
| Grants                                                           | 370,000          | 492,560          |
| Sponsorship                                                      | 115,412          | 178,440          |
| Annual conference                                                | 272,666          | 226,732          |
| Raffle 50/50                                                     | 4,506            | 1,505            |
| Alberta Farmers & Ranchers                                       | -                | 6,933            |
| Wildfire donations                                               | -                | 35,000           |
| Interest income                                                  | 9,290            | 11,951           |
| Other income                                                     | 26,948           | 36,875           |
| Revenue deferred from previous period                            | 192,023          | 302,278          |
| Revenue deferred to subsequent period                            | (146,461)        | (192,023)        |
|                                                                  | <b>979,338</b>   | <b>1,194,851</b> |
| <b>Expenses by Program (Schedule 1)</b>                          |                  |                  |
| Administration                                                   | 514,748          | 524,402          |
| Certified volunteer board member                                 | -                | 55,467           |
| Cluster Grant 2023                                               | 17,944           | 32,056           |
| Cluster Grant 2024                                               | 43,367           | -                |
| Convention                                                       | 208,679          | 189,803          |
| Cultivating farm safety                                          | -                | 57,239           |
| Farm safety program                                              | 6,298            | 97,050           |
| I'm Ok grant                                                     | 16,089           | 5,746            |
| Open farm days 2023                                              | 36,900           | 250,600          |
| Open farm days 2024                                              | 200,987          | -                |
| Rail                                                             | -                | 28,438           |
| Society analysis                                                 | 17,000           | -                |
|                                                                  | <b>1,062,012</b> | <b>1,240,801</b> |
| <b>Deficiency of Revenues over Expenses before Other Income</b>  | <b>(82,674)</b>  | <b>(45,950)</b>  |
| <b>Other Income</b> - Canada Emergency Business Loan Forgiveness | -                | 20,000           |
| <b>Deficiency of Revenues over Expenses</b>                      | <b>(82,674)</b>  | <b>(25,950)</b>  |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended October 31, 2024

|                                                               | 2024        | 2023        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                                               | \$          | \$          |
| <b>Cash provided by (used for) the following activities:</b>  |             |             |
| <b>Operating Activities</b>                                   |             |             |
| Cash received from members                                    | 407,620     | 321,332     |
| Cash received from grants                                     | 295,000     | 527,560     |
| Cash received from interest and other income                  | 157,556     | 219,483     |
| Cash paid to suppliers and employees                          | (1,000,355) | (1,236,061) |
|                                                               | (140,179)   | (167,686)   |
| <b>Financing Activities</b>                                   |             |             |
| Canada Emergency Business Account loan forgiveness            | -           | 20,000      |
| Funds advanced from Line of credit                            | 15,027      | -           |
| Repayment of loan payable (Canada Emergency Business Account) | -           | (60,000)    |
|                                                               | 15,027      | (40,000)    |
| <b>Investing Activities</b>                                   |             |             |
| Additions to capital assets                                   | -           | (89,411)    |
| Decrease (increase) in investments                            | -           | 210,000     |
|                                                               | -           | 120,589     |
| <b>Decrease in Cash Resources</b>                             | (125,152)   | (87,097)    |
| <b>Cash resources, beginning of year</b>                      | 135,100     | 222,197     |
| <b>Cash resources, end of year</b>                            | 9,948       | 135,100     |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Notes to the Financial Statements

October 31, 2024

---

### **Purpose of the Association**

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies operates to assist member societies to carry out the objectives of the Agricultural Societies Act. The Association also acts as a representative for all members with the Alberta Department of Agriculture. The Association assists in the Association of agricultural and educational seminars and programs as well as providing supplies for trade fairs. The Association is a non-for-profit entity and is exempt from the income tax under the provision of paragraph 149 (i)(e) of the Income Tax Act Canada.

### **1. Significant Accounting Policies**

These financial statements of the Association have been prepared in accordance with Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook, Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Associations. Significant accounting policies are described below:

#### **(a) Revenue Recognition**

The Association follows the deferral fund method of accounting for its contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Government grants are recorded when there is a reasonable assurance that the Association has complied with and will continue to comply with, all the necessary conditions to obtain the grants.

The loan forgiveness on the Canadian Emergency Business Account loan is recognized into income in the year the loan is repaid.

Interest income is recognized when earned.

#### **(b) Fund Accounting**

The unrestricted net assets accounts for the Association's program delivery and administrative activities.

The internally restricted net assets are funds received for scholarships and paid upon Board approval.

#### **(c) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consists of bank accounts and temporary investments with maturities less than three months.

#### **(d) Financial Instruments**

The Association's initially measures financial assets and financial liabilities at their fair value. It subsequently measures its financial assets and financial liabilities, other than investments, at amortized cost. The financial assets subsequently measured at amortized cost include cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. The financial liabilities subsequently measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Investments are recorded at fair value.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Notes to the Financial Statements

October 31, 2024

---

### 1. Significant Accounting Policies - continued

#### (e) Financial Instruments - continued

The association's risk exposures related to its financial instruments are outlined as follows:

##### **Credit Risk**

The Association is exposed to credit risk on the accounts receivable from its members. In order to reduce its credit risk, the association has adopted credit policies which include an analysis of the financial position of its members and the regular review of their credit limits.

##### **Interest Rate Risk**

The association is exposed to risk that the fair value of financial instruments or future cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates.

#### (f) Investments

Investments are recorded at cost.

#### (g) Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value with the cost being determined on a first-in, first-out basis. Inventory consist of promotional items.

#### (h) Capital Assets

Capital assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Capital assets are amortized, over their estimated useful life, on a declining balance basis using the following rates:

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Computer equipment | 55% |
| Equipment          | 20% |
| Vehicle            | 30% |

#### (i) Contributed Services

Contributed materials and services are recorded at fair value when the amount can reasonably be determined and would have been purchased by the Association if not contributed. Due to the difficulty of determining their fair value, volunteer services are not recognized in the financial statements. There were no contributed materials and services recorded for the years ended October 31, 2024 and October 31, 2023.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Notes to the Financial Statements

October 31, 2024

### 1. Significant Accounting Policies - continued

#### (j) Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Accounts receivable are stated after evaluation as to their collectability and an appropriate allowance for doubtful accounts is provided where considered necessary. Provisions are made for slow moving and obsolete inventory. Amortization is based on the estimated useful lives of the tangible capital assets. These estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary they are reported in the revenue and expenses in the years in which they become known. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### 2. Long Term Investments

|              | 2024    | 2023    |
|--------------|---------|---------|
|              | \$      | \$      |
| GIC - Servus | 150,000 | 150,000 |

Servus Credit Union guaranteed investment certificates matures May 23, 2027 and earns interest at 4.50% per year

### 3. Accounts Receivable

|                                          | 2024   | 2023   |
|------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                                          | \$     | \$     |
| Trade                                    | 14,349 | 9,255  |
| Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation grant | 75,000 | -      |
| GST Recoverable                          | -      | 6,494  |
|                                          | 89,349 | 15,749 |

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Notes to the Financial Statements

October 31, 2024

### 4. Capital Assets

|           | 2024   |                          |                |
|-----------|--------|--------------------------|----------------|
|           | Cost   | Accumulated Amortization | Net Book Value |
|           | \$     | \$                       | \$             |
| Computers | 5,678  | 3,826                    | 1,852          |
| Equipment | 57,460 | 16,089                   | 41,371         |
| Vehicles  | 26,273 | 10,640                   | 15,633         |
|           | 89,411 | 30,555                   | 58,856         |
|           |        |                          |                |
|           | 2023   |                          |                |
|           | Cost   | Accumulated Amortization | Net Book Value |
|           | \$     | \$                       | \$             |
| Computers | 5,678  | 1,562                    | 4,116          |
| Equipment | 57,460 | 5,746                    | 51,714         |
| Vehicles  | 26,273 | 3,941                    | 22,332         |
|           | 89,411 | 11,249                   | 78,162         |

### 5. Trust Funds

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies has been appointed to manage the Provincial Associations bank account in trust for the members. The trust account collects Provincial Association fees from the Provincial Associations to pay for the expenses for a representative of the Provincial Associations to sit as a Director on the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions Board (CAFE).

The trust funds total \$15,772 (2023 - \$14,704) and are held in a separate bank account with Servus Credit Union.

### 6. Line of Credit

The association has a line of credit with a limit of \$70,000. Interest is calculated at 6.95%. As of year end, they have \$54,973 credit available.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Notes to the Financial Statements

October 31, 2024

### 7. Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities

|                     | 2024          | 2023          |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                     | \$            | \$            |
| Trade               | 39,170        | 13,941        |
| GST payable         | 3,199         | -             |
| Accrued liabilities | 7,500         | 7,500         |
|                     | <b>49,869</b> | <b>21,441</b> |

### 8. Deferred Contributions

|                              | 2023           | 2024           |                      |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
|                              | Ending         | Additions      | Recognized in Income | Closing        |
|                              | \$             | \$             | \$                   | \$             |
| Capacity Development Grant   | 29,167         | 75,000         | (104,167)            | -              |
| Open Farm Days               |                |                |                      |                |
| Government of Alberta        | 36,900         | 225,000        | (234,751)            | 27,149         |
| Convention                   | -              | 50,079         | -                    | 50,079         |
| Memberships                  | -              | 6,100          | (500)                | 5,600          |
| Regional meeting             | -              | 1,375          | (500)                | 875            |
| Farm Safety Program          | 6,298          | -              | (6,298)              | -              |
| Rural Cluster Coaching Grant | 17,944         | 70,000         | (61,311)             | 26,633         |
| Sponsorships                 | 50,000         | -              | (50,000)             | -              |
|                              | <b>140,309</b> | <b>427,554</b> | <b>(457,527)</b>     | <b>110,336</b> |

The Capacity Development Grant is provided to assist AAAS in increasing its capacity to support its members.

The Farm Safety Grant, in the amount of \$1,000,000, was received in the 2016 fiscal year. The purpose of the grant is to support the delivery of Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies' Farm Safety Grant Program to Alberta Agricultural Societies in order to effect behavioural changes in the Agriculture community of Alberta.

The Rural Cluster Coaching Grant, in the amount of \$70,000 has been provided to focus on developing agri-tourism, creating rural partnerships and using regional approaches.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Notes to the Financial Statements

October 31, 2024

### 9. Unamortized Capital Contributions

|              | 2023   | 2024      |                         |         |
|--------------|--------|-----------|-------------------------|---------|
|              | Ending | Additions | Recognized in<br>Income | Closing |
|              | \$     | \$        | \$                      | \$      |
| I'm OK Grant | 51,714 | -         | (16,089)                | 35,625  |

The I'm OK Grant, in the amount of \$57,460, was received in the 2023 fiscal year. The purpose of the grant is to support project costs. Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies' used this grant to purchase a outdoor LED wall. The deferred revenue portion will be recognized into revenue in-line with the depreciation of the capital asset.

### 10. Internally Restricted Net Assets

|                                               | 2024           | 2023           |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                               | \$             | \$             |
| <b>Operating reserve</b>                      |                |                |
| Balance, opening                              | 166,528        | 166,528        |
| Transfer to unrestricted net assets           | (54,948)       | -              |
| Balance, ending                               | 111,580        | 166,528        |
| <b>Scholarship fund</b>                       |                |                |
| Balance, opening                              | 23,885         | 25,380         |
| Raffle - 50/50, net                           | 4,506          | 1,505          |
| Scholarships paid                             | (3,000)        | (3,000)        |
| Balance, ending                               | 25,391         | 23,885         |
| <b>Total Internally Restricted Net Assets</b> | <b>136,971</b> | <b>190,413</b> |

The operating reserve has been established to provide for one years operating expenditures.

The scholarship fund has been established to provide agriculture scholarships.

The Society has designated cash of \$136,971 (2023 - \$190,413) for the above internally restricted net assets.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Notes to the Financial Statements

October 31, 2024

---

### 11. Equity in Capital Assets

|                                            | 2024     | 2023     |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
|                                            | \$       | \$       |
| Capital assets (Note 4)                    | 89,411   | 89,411   |
| Accumulated amortization (Note 4)          | (30,556) | (11,249) |
| Unamortized capital contributions (Note 9) | (35,625) | (51,714) |
|                                            | 23,230   | 26,448   |

### 12. Comparative Figures

Comparative figures have been restated to conform to the current year's presentation.

# Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

## Schedule 1 - Statement of Operations

For the year ended October 31, 2024

|                                            | Cluster<br>Grant<br>2023 | Cluster<br>Grant<br>2024 | Convention | Open Farm<br>Days 2023 | Open Farm<br>Days 2024 | Admin    | Farm Safety | Society<br>Analysis | I'm Ok   | 2024      | 2023      |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------|-------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                            | \$                       | \$                       | \$         | \$                     | \$                     | \$       | \$          | \$                  | \$       | \$        | \$        |
| <b>Revenue</b>                             |                          |                          |            |                        |                        |          |             |                     |          |           |           |
| Membership                                 | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 134,954  | -           | -                   | -        | 134,954   | 94,600    |
| Grants                                     | -                        | 70,000                   | -          | -                      | 225,000                | 75,000   | -           | -                   | -        | 370,000   | 492,560   |
| Sponsorship                                | -                        | -                        | 4,700      | -                      | -                      | 110,712  | -           | -                   | -        | 115,412   | 178,440   |
| Annual conference                          | -                        | -                        | 272,666    | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | 272,666   | 226,732   |
| Raffle 50/50                               | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 4,506    | -           | -                   | -        | 4,506     | 1,505     |
| Alberta Young Farmers -<br>& Ranchers      | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | -         | 6,933     |
| Wildfire donations                         | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | -         | 35,000    |
| Interest income                            | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 9,290    | -           | -                   | -        | 9,290     | 11,951    |
| Other revenue                              | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 20,998   | -           | 5,950               | -        | 26,948    | 36,875    |
| Canada Emergency -<br>Loan Forgiveness     | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | -         | 20,000    |
| Deferred from -<br>previous period         | 17,944                   | -                        | -          | 36,900                 | -                      | 79,167   | 6,298       | -                   | 51,714   | 192,023   | 302,278   |
| Deferred to -<br>subsequent period         | -                        | (26,633)                 | (50,079)   | -                      | (27,149)               | (6,975)  | -           | -                   | (35,625) | (146,461) | (192,023) |
|                                            | 17,944                   | 43,367                   | 227,287    | 36,900                 | 197,851                | 427,652  | 6,298       | 5,950               | 16,089   | 979,338   | 1,214,851 |
| <b>Expenses</b>                            |                          |                          |            |                        |                        |          |             |                     |          |           |           |
| Advertising and -<br>promotional materials | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | 72,430                 | 1,831    | -           | -                   | -        | 74,261    | -         |
| Alberta Young Farmers -<br>& Ranchers      | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | -         | 38,604    |
| Amortization                               | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 3,218    | -           | -                   | 16,089   | 19,307    | 11,249    |
| Annual conference                          | -                        | -                        | 208,313    | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | 208,313   | 197,568   |
| Bad debt (recovery)                        | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | -         | (879)     |
| Board members                              | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 31,447   | -           | -                   | -        | 31,447    | 10,822    |
| Consulting fee                             | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | 17,000              | -        | 17,000    | 17,000    |
| Contract staff                             | 15,849                   | 33,367                   | -          | 18,668                 | 39,010                 | 51,144   | -           | -                   | -        | 158,038   | -         |
| Fair supplies                              | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | 7,123                  | 1,346    | -           | -                   | -        | 8,469     | 4,647     |
| Grant disbursement                         | 2,095                    | 10,000                   | -          | 16,882                 | 48,542                 | 40,103   | 6,298       | -                   | -        | 123,920   | 278,250   |
| Insurance                                  | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | 9,030                  | 7,985    | -           | -                   | -        | 17,015    | 5,302     |
| Interest and bank charges                  | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 6,313    | -           | -                   | -        | 6,313     | 3,806     |
| Non deductible goods -<br>and service tax  | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 18,674   | -           | -                   | -        | 18,674    | 18,151    |
| Office and supplies                        | -                        | -                        | -          | 1,350                  | 22,422                 | 39,427   | -           | -                   | -        | 63,199    | 17,627    |
| Open Farm Days                             | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | -         | 250,600   |
| Professional fees                          | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 17,156   | -           | -                   | -        | 17,156    | 12,467    |
| Scholarships and awards                    | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 3,000    | -           | -                   | -        | 3,000     | 3,000     |
| Travel, accommodation -<br>and meals       | -                        | -                        | 366        | -                      | 1,543                  | 82,195   | -           | -                   | -        | 84,104    | 60,274    |
| Wages and employee -<br>benefits           | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | 201,599  | -           | -                   | -        | 201,599   | 266,266   |
| Wildfire expense                           | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | -                      | -        | -           | -                   | -        | -         | 35,000    |
| Workshops                                  | -                        | -                        | -          | -                      | 887                    | 9,310    | -           | -                   | -        | 10,197    | 11,047    |
|                                            | 17,944                   | 43,367                   | 208,679    | 36,900                 | 200,987                | 514,748  | 6,298       | 17,000              | 16,089   | 1,062,012 | 1,240,801 |
| <b>Excess (Deficiency) of -</b>            |                          |                          |            |                        |                        |          |             |                     |          |           |           |
| Revenues over Expenses                     | -                        | -                        | 18,608     | -                      | (3,136)                | (87,096) | -           | (11,050)            | -        | (82,674)  | (25,950)  |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies

For the year ending October 31, 2025

BUDGET FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Revenue

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Memberships       | \$126,500 |
| Grants            | \$127,000 |
| Sponsorship       | \$200,000 |
| Annual Conference | \$256,000 |
| Interest Income   | \$5,000   |
| Other Income      | \$68,600  |
|                   | <hr/>     |
|                   | \$783,100 |

Expenditures

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Annual Conference             | \$180,000 |
| Board Members                 | \$32,000  |
| Insurance                     | \$7,500   |
| Office                        | \$12,000  |
| Other Expenses                | \$94,200  |
| Professional Fees             | \$15,000  |
| Scholarship/Awards            | \$8,000   |
| Travel/Accommodations & Meals | \$32,800  |
| Wages and Employee Benefits   | \$341,000 |
| Workshops/Programs            | \$39,100  |
|                               | <hr/>     |
|                               | \$761,600 |

|            |          |
|------------|----------|
| Net Income | \$21,500 |
|------------|----------|

## **Additional Notes to the 2023-24 Financial Statement**

1. Statement of Operations Schedule 1 (pg.14-15) - Revenue
  - a. **Memberships** – Although the number of “Industry Partner” memberships have increased in 2024 this revenue stated includes 2025 Ag Society memberships. These were deferred to the 2025 fiscal year.
  - b. **Sponsorship** – Although the value indicated suggests a reduction in sponsorship revenue totaled \$160,712.00. The additional sponsorship is captured in the “deferred from previous period” line.
2. Statement of Operations (pg.14-15) – Expenses
  - a. **Improved Record Keeping Methods** - AAAS continues to improve our record keeping ensuring we can produce reporting that clearly states the expenses based on “classification” instead of simple “project” based reporting. Due to this refinement projects like “Open Farm Days” and the “Cluster Grant” are in the appropriate class of expense.
  - b. **Amortization** – With the acquisition of assets for the “I’m Ok” Safety program AAAS is now required to depreciate these assets. This depreciation has been calculated at \$19,307.
  - c. **Board Members** – 2024 was a strategic planning year for AAAS. This critical facilitation takes place over 3 days adding to the total. The rising cost of accommodations, meals and travel contributes to operational expenses. The AAAS board commits to meeting 3 times / year outside of conference as well as online meeting throughout the year. In 2023 several board members were unable to attend in person meetings.
  - d. **Contract Staff** - As stated in part (a.) the program expenses are now represented by class. All AAAS contracted staff are represented here.
  - e. **Insurance** – Although AAAS did see a small increase in the insurance expense for operations, the insurance for Open Farm Days is also represented here. Insurance costs continue to increase.
  - f. **Interest & Bank Charges** – As AAAS grows the number of online payment options the credit card fees continue to rise.
  - g. **Office & Supplies** – As stated in part (a.) all program expenses are now represented by class. Websites, software, telephone, internet, rent, professional development and vehicle expenses are now captured here. The fees for these services continue to escalate.
  - h. **Travel, Accommodations and Meals** – Expenses in this category are comprised of costs incurred in the pursuit and retention of industry partners, AAAS staff industry participation and the support of Agricultural Society members. These costs continue to escalate due to inflationary pressures, however, the largest increase has been due to the demand for support to our members. Nearly 20 Agricultural Societies received direct support from AAAS many of those required multiple visits. Conflict, governance and strategic planning were predominantly the topics of engagement.

### 3. General Information

- a. **GST Rebate** – Historically AAAS has qualified for the GST Rebate. A not-for-profit must have more than 40% of their revenue coming from grants to qualify. AAAS did not meet that threshold. AAAS' total GST spend was \$18,674. The project grants do not cover GST expenditures.
- b. **Alberta's Open Farm Days** – The 2024 edition of Open Farm Days was the most successful in the series so far. As the event continues to grow, the expenses that support the program grow with it. Particularly the host farm support. Promotional material, insurance, media, resources, etc. all increase with additional host farms. The production of Open farm Days exceeded the grant funds by \$3,136.
- c. **The I'm Ok Farm Safety** – The I'm Ok Safety series is an extremely unique presentation which consists of 3 augmented reality shows. The shows themselves require trained staff to ensure the equipment required is assembled properly and protected for long term use as well as being the live component responsible for engaging the audience. Most of the expenses associated with the program, \$16,089, are associated with the acquisition and training of staff. The shows were booked for 7 days in 2024.