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January 2022



Alliance Innovations

A collaboration between OMAFRA and the University of Guelph

Stories of the Alliance people, places and programs generating impact in the agri-food sector in Ontario and around the world.

In this issue:

- Research Impact Case Study series now available online
- Skills for Research Impact Workshop series
- Reminder: HQP Scholarship program open until January 18
- Alliance people, places and programs in the media
- Upcoming events

What's New?



Research Impact Case Study series now available online

The [Research Impact Case Study series](#) is a compilation of stories that showcase how investments in the Alliance are being transformed into impacts that support a competitive and sustainable agri-food system in Ontario and across Canada.

Readers can explore three different themes that demonstrate the long-term impact of research and knowledge mobilization activities in the agri-food and rural sectors. Through people, places, programs and partnerships, Alliance-funded research is making a difference.

Explore the series by clicking below:



[View the Research Impact Case Study series](#)

Skills for Research Impact Workshop Series



Join us online this winter for one or multiple sessions from the [Skills for Research Impact Workshop Series](#)!

Faculty, research staff and graduate students interested in enhancing the impact of their research will learn how to successfully plan, execute and evaluate knowledge mobilization activities. Sessions will cover topics that are key to effective research communications and engagement of non-academic audiences.

January 18: [Planning for Research Impact](#)

February 1: [Stakeholder Engagement](#)

February 15: [Disseminating Research](#)

March 1: [Science Policy Engagement](#)

March 15: [Infographic Development and Design](#)

March 29: [Evaluating Knowledge Translation and Transfer \(KTT\) Activities](#)

This workshop series is a collaboration among the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance, the Community Engaged Scholarship Institute and the Research Innovation Office at the University of Guelph.

For more information, contact us at kttadmin@uoguelph.ca.

REMINDER: Accepting Applications for HQP Scholarship Program



The application deadline for the Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) Scholarship program is Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

The HQP Scholarship program, supported by the Alliance and the [Food from Thought](#) program, provides scholarships for masters and doctoral students working in program areas that relate to [OMAFRA research priority areas](#). HQP students participate in specialized workplace-readiness training about business, commercialization and societal interactions with the agri-food system and will also gain practical workplace experience with a government, industry or community partner that connects with the student's research interests and future career goals.

The HQP Scholarship program offers:

- Financial support (up to \$75,000) to masters and doctoral students undertaking research to improve the Ontario agriculture and agri-food sector.
- Advanced skill development and learning alongside industry partners to enhance the intellectual capacity of our citizens to solve current and future problems.

Note: The student and their Faculty Advisor jointly complete the application form.

[Learn More](#)

Media

A selection of Alliance people, places and programs cited in popular and trade media.

[‘A high emotional toll’: Why Ontario veterinarians are under pressure](#) (Nov. 16, two)

Dr. Jeffrey Wichtel, dean on U of G's Ontario Veterinary College, helps explain why and what needs to happen to expand vet enrolment. Including the Alliance's continued support of the Veterinary Capacity Program.

[Protecting farmland through rural land planning](#) (Nov. 29, Farmtario)

Alliance-funded researcher Dr. Wayne Caldwell discusses rural land planning that prioritizes agriculture at the 2021 Canadian Beef Industry Conference.

[U of G researchers are committed to reducing global methane emissions](#) (Nov. 29, U of G News)

A University of Guelph-led, international project intends to reduce climate-warming methane emissions from dairy cattle – a key issue following the adoption of a global methane-reduction pledge at this month's United Nations climate change conference.

[Reduced fertilizer emissions possible through incentives](#) (Dec. 3, Farmtario)

Dr. Claudia Wagner-Riddle, a professor in the University's School of Environmental Sciences, discusses how 4R fertilizer management (right source, time, rate and placement) can have positive environmental impacts.

[‘Farmer mental health requires a different response’: University of Guelph study shows poor mental health in farmers](#) (Dec. 7, The Record)

Alliance-funded researcher Dr. Leith Deacon shares research on COVID-19 and mental health with the farming community.

[Long-term Ontario studies show value of cover crops](#) (Dec. 24, Farmtario)

Dr. Laura Van Eerd, a professor of sustainable soil management at the Ridgetown campus, discusses how her long-term studies are showing the value of cover crops and boosting soil organic matter.

[Fergus resident researching pandemic's impact on rural communities](#) (Dec. 30, Wellington Advertiser)

Dr. Leith Deacon discusses his OMAFRA-funded research that involves a mass survey mailout to rural counties that focuses on investigating the impact of the pandemic on rural communities.

Events

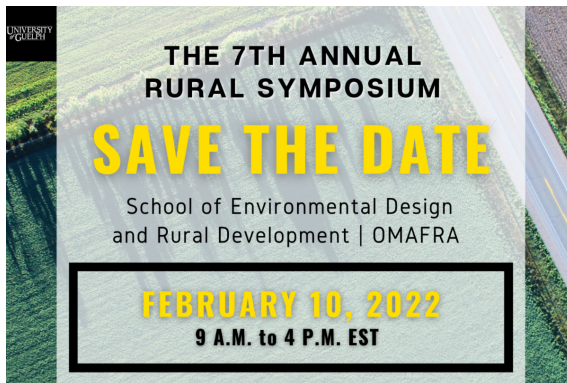


[Planning for Research Impact Workshop](#)
[- Tuesday, Jan. 18](#)



Knowledge mobilization 101! Become familiar with knowledge mobilization plans and conceptualize strategies adapted to your goals and audiences.

[Register Now](#)



7th Annual Rural Symposium -
Thursday, February 10

The Rural Symposium is an annual opportunity for University of Guelph graduate students to showcase their rural research to policy makers, policy analysts, and program staff from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). The event facilitates knowledge mobilization and network building between graduate students at the University of Guelph, researchers, and OMAFRA. This year's event will be hosted online through Zoom and will profile student research related to rural Ontario.

[Register Now](#)

Make an Alliance Connection



[Visit the Alliance website](#)

Comments? Feedback? Events or content to include? Email kttadmin@uoguelph.ca.



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