# Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP)

Adele Harding B.Sc., P.Ag.

Irrigation Management Specialist

Agriculture and Forestry

### What is CAP?

- Alberta is currently a signatory to a national five-year agricultural policy framework known as Growing Forward 2 (GF2) that is set to expire March 31, 2018
- The Canadian Agricultural Partnership is a five-year, \$3 billion investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector.
- In Alberta, CAP will commit to the same level of investment as GF2 which is \$406 million towards Strategic Initiatives in Alberta.

# Why CAP

- The Government of Alberta recognizes the incredible potential of agriculture and the important contribution the sector makes to a strong and diverse provincial economy and to rural communities.
- Producers will continue to have access to an excellent assortment of Business Risk Management (BRM) programs that will continue to help producers manage significant risks that threaten the viability of their farm and are beyond their capacity to manage.

### Creation of CAP

- The first round of consultation and engagement, held in Spring 2017, focused on gaining industry input on six priority areas and discerning what needed to be accomplished in Alberta.
- A What We Heard Report was released in early July and is posted on www.growingforward.alberta.ca.
- A second round of consultation and engagement with industry is being targeted for the Winter 2018 timeframe and will focus on obtaining industry input on what the suite of CAP-funded programs in Alberta should look like.

# Programs within CAP

- The next major milestone in the CAP process includes the negotiation of a bilateral agreement between Canada and Alberta targeted for March 2018, which will outline programs for Alberta.
- Input and guidance from Alberta's agriculture sector and other stakeholders continues to be a valuable resource as we move into the development of programs tailored to Alberta industry needs.
- Program development for the CAP will also be influenced by the lessons learns from GF2, input and feedback from both external and internal engagement and consultation, emerging priorities at the national and provincial level, and the budget for the next framework.

# Priority Areas

- In July 2017, at their annual meeting in St. John's Newfoundland and Labrador, FPT Ministers of Agriculture agreed to the key elements of the Canadian Agricultural Policy (CAP) Framework.
- The six key priority areas will be a focus in the Canadian Agricultural Partnership:
  - Markets and Trade;
  - Science, Research and Innovation;
  - Risk Management;
  - Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change;
  - Value Added Agriculture and Agri-Food Processing; and
  - Public Trust.

### Where do I find out more information?

- Look for updates on CAP under the "Canadian Agricultural Partnership News" tab on the Growing Forward 2 website at www.growingforward.alberta.ca.
- ► For anyone wishing to receive automatic email updates on any CAP developments, a subscription option is available on the website.

## Questions?

Adele Harding B. Sc., P.Ag.
Irrigation Management Specialist
Irrigation and Farm Water Division
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Box 867
Bow Island, AB TOK 0G0

Tel: (403) 545-2231

Cell: (403) 315-4779

Email: adele.harding@gov.ab.ca

