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HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GET INSIDERS LOOK AT AGRICULTURE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

(Calgary, AB, Nov 15, 2016) On November 9, over 200 students took part in Ag for Life's new ThinkAg Careers program held simultaneously at Agri-Trade in Red Deer, and Farmfair International in Edmonton. The ThinkAg Careers program supported by Dow AgroSciences provided high school students the opportunity to learn about the vast variety of careers that are available in the agriculture sector.

Participants explored the endless career and entrepreneurial opportunities in the agriculture industry by rotating through several interactive stations. While at the stations students learned about modern food production and discovered the diversity of agriculture-related post-secondary options from presenters working in the agriculture industry. At the ThinkAg Careers program hosted with Farmfair International, students participated in stations led by the Alberta Institute of Agrologists, Cargill, Deepwater Farms, MNP, and UFA. At the ThinkAg Careers program hosted with Agri-Trade students participated in stations led by AdFarm, AgCareers.com, Crop Production Services, Dow AgroSciences, MNP and Olds College. Following the presentations, students had the opportunity to tour the agriculture expos and interact with exhibitors.

"Agri-Trade looks forward to partnering with Ag for Life to produce more valuable programming for students in the Central Alberta Region," states David Fiddler, Agri-Trade manager. "Programs like ThinkAg Careers gets students thinking about their possible role in the agriculture industry, and agriculture expos provide the perfect backdrop for such a program."

"It was exciting to see students learning first-hand about careers in the agriculture industry," says Ag for Life CEO, Luree Williamson. "Students were fully engaged and excited to hear from industry representatives," adds Williamson. "There are so many diverse career opportunities in agriculture, and we are honoured to bring together students and industry stakeholders to showcase these opportunities."

The learning extended beyond the ThinkAg Careers sessions when they went back to school: "Students were talking with other students who didn't attend about what they learned at Farmfair. The ThinkAg program sparked quite a bit of interest in my students," says Dan Krywko, Edmonton Public School Teacher.

Agriculture for Life supports agriculture education programs such as Alberta Open Farm Days, Classroom Agriculture Program, Little Green Thumbs, City Slickers, Ag 101, and On-Farm Tours. The agriculture education programs focus on building understanding and appreciation of Alberta's agriculture industry and its fundamental connection to life. For more information visit agricultureforlife.ca.

About Ag for Life

Ag for Life (Agriculture for Life) has a mandate to deliver educational programming designed to improve rural and farm safety while building public understanding around the agricultural industry. The organization brings together various sectors including agri-services, energy, financial and not-for-profit organizations, along with farmers, ranchers and community leaders.

Ag for Life is made possible through the funding and commitment of companies that employ almost 20,000 people in more than 350 Alberta communities. Founding Members include Agrium Inc., ATB

