



Newfoundland and Labrador Young Farmers' Forum

January 30, 2019

“NL Young Farmers Launch Updated New Farmer Guide”

The Newfoundland and Labrador Young Farmers' Forum (NLYFF) is celebrating the launch of its New Farmer Guide Version 2.0 at the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meeting, taking place this week in Gander. This updated guide was developed to help people interested in starting a farm business to understand what steps need to be taken and to educate them on the programs and resources available.

The guide takes new entrants through eight steps, starting with defining goals and ending with getting ready to farm. Many resources are highlighted in the guide including funding opportunities, important contacts, and resource materials. The original guide was launched in 2017 and this marks its first update, adding new programs and resources.

“Agriculture is an exciting and dynamic industry that is full of opportunities for new and young farmers, and a top economic driver in this country,” said Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. “The Government of Canada is proud to partner with the province and industry to support the creation of this valuable resource to help strengthen and build the sector for future generations.”

“This inclusive document is an excellent resource for anyone interested in the Newfoundland and Labrador agriculture industry. The Young Farmers Forum is doing a spectacular job of helping us achieve our goal to increase food self-sufficiency,” said Gerry Byrne, Minister of Fisheries and Land Resources. “The organization continues to help people plan a future in farming by supplying the network of supports required for success in a challenging and diverse sector. I congratulate the Young Farmers Forum on their updated New Farmer Guide and I encourage people to take a look at what it has to offer.”

“The New Farmer Guide is the most requested resource we’ve developed, and keeping it up-to-date is vital to helping new farmers achieve success,” said NLYFF Chair Susan Lester. “This updated guide links to other initiatives we have been working on; including our hands-on workshops, the mentorship pilot program, and awareness pieces.”

“As an industry, in tandem with the provincial government, we’ve had a push to get new farmers to join us and help grow the supply of local food and improve our food security,” said Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture President, Merv Wiseman. “By helping new farmers get started and become successful, we are putting the province on track to enhance our food security and rural economy.”

The guide is available online at <http://www.nlyoungfarmers.ca/nl-new-farmer-guide>. It is also available in hard copy form at events, industry tradeshow, and by request.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Young Farmers' Forum represents farmers in Newfoundland and Labrador from the ages of 18 to 40. Our mission is to attract, create, and empower a network of aspiring, new, and existing young farm leaders.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Young Farmers' Forum is supported by the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative intended to innovate, grow and strengthen the agriculture and agri-food sector. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership is providing \$148,000 to support Newfoundland and Labrador Younger Farmers' Forum initiatives in 2018-19.

Media contact: Matthew Carlson, Coordinator, Newfoundland and Labrador Young Farmers' Forum,
(709) 746-2859.

-30-