



Western Canadian Dairy Seminar

March 8 – 11, 2022

Cambridge Hotel, Red Deer, Alberta

Building on 40 Years of Dairy Extension

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

For the 2022 WCDS, there will be **no pre-conference tour**. Instead, professionally filmed virtual farm tours will be presented as part of the producer panel on Thursday March 10, 2022. There will also be **no pre-conference workshop**.

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm **Registration**

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm **Opening Reception**

Please join us at our opening reception for cocktails, refreshments and live music to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the WCDS.

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Morning Plenary Session

8:30 Welcome – **Nelson Dinn, University of British Columbia, Chair, WCDS Advisory Committee**

Introductory Remarks and Conference Overview – **Karin Orsel, University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Chair, WCDS Program Committee**

8:50 **Keynote Speakers**
The Dynamic World of Agri-Food: A Fireside Chat with **Dianne Finstad and Kim McConnell**

9:50 **Nutrition Break**

Session I: Sustainable Dairy for Society's Challenges

10:20 Trends and Opportunities in Reducing the Environmental Footprint of Dairy Farms– **Tim McAllister, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada**

11:00 Building Public Trust in Food and Farming – **Kim McConnell, Founder & Former CEO of AdFarm**

11:50 Inbreeding: New Solutions for an Old Problem – **Christine Baes, University of Guelph**

12:10 **Lunch**

Afternoon Plenary Session

Session II: Adopting New Trends/Technologies to Bolster On-Farm Nutrition

1:40 Back to the Future: New Ideas for Today's Dairy Herd Challenges – **Daniel Scothorn, Scothorn Nutrition**

2:20 How Can Automation be Used to Optimize Cow Nutrition? – **Trevor DeVries, University of Guelph**

3:00 **Nutrition Break**

Session III: Reproduction

3:30 Transition Period Health and Reproduction: Preparing for a Successful Pregnancy – **Stephen LeBlanc, University of Guelph**

4:10 What Activity Monitors Can and Cannot do Today – **Ronaldo Cerri, University of British Columbia**

Evening Banquet

6:00 Cash Bar

7:00 Supper

Entertainment – **Dueling Pianos**

The banquet is optional. Separate registration required.

***New* Student Poster Competition**

For the 2022 WCDS, students will be presenting their research posters along the hallway opposite of the session rooms.

Visit with the students and learn about the newest research in dairy during the nutrition breaks and the 2nd half of the lunch breaks on Wednesday and Thursday.

Winners will be announced at the Thursday evening reception.

Thursday, March 10, 2022

Morning Plenary Session

Session IV: Student Research

- 8:30 **Student Research Presentation Competition**
Five graduate students will present their dairy-related research findings
- 9:55 **Nutrition Break**

Session V: Producer Panel

- 10:25 **The Big Change – Producer Panel Presentations**
Three dairy farms that have implemented big changes on their operations will be virtually toured followed by a Q&A period
- 12:30 **Lunch**

Afternoon Plenary Session

Session VI: Preventing Diseases in the Future

- 1:45 **Importance of Selective Antibiotic Use: Drying Off and Clinical Mastitis – Herman Barkema, University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine**
- 2:25 **Surveillance, prevention and control of *Salmonella* in dairy cattle in Quebec – Luc Bergeron, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, QB**
- 3:05 **Nutrition Break**

Session VII: Calf Management

- 3:35 **Starting Calves Off Right: Back to the Basics on Colostrum Management – Sarah Parsons, Alta Genetics**
- 4:15 **Optimizing Health and Welfare in the Pre-Weaned Calf – Charlotte Winder, University of Guelph**
- 5:00 **Cocktail Reception**
Announcement of Winners for the Student Research Presentation and Poster Competitions

Friday, March 11, 2022

Morning Plenary Session

Session VIII: Healthy Cows, Healthy People

- 8:30 **Minimizing Stress to Enhance Cow Health and Productivity – Meagan King, University of Manitoba**
- 9:10 **Wellbeing and Productive Farming – Cynthia Beck, University of Regina**
- 9:50 **Nutrition Break**

Session IX: Emerging Trends

- 10:20 **Managing Health and Rumination Data: Getting The Most Out Of Your Technology – Jake Vermeer, Vermeer's Dairy Ltd**
- 11:00 **From Touching Udders to Touching Screens: How We Use Sensors on Our Farm – Sytse Heeg, Heeg Dairy Inc**
- 11:40 **Beef on Dairy Crosses: Diversification and Income Potential – Kee Jim, Feedlot Health Management Services**
- 12:20 **Closing**

Program subject to change