



AALP Celebrates 25 Years of Growing Ag Leaders

Over the past 25 years, the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program (AALP) has graduated over 350 individuals who are now making a positive impact on the future of agriculture in Ontario, Canada and beyond.

To mark this quarter century milestone, AALP will be holding a 25th Anniversary Reception on Tuesday, September 15th, 2009 at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show

(COFS) in Woodstock, Ontario. The reception will be held from 3:00 to 5:00 pm in the Bayer CropScience Tent located on 5th Lane SouthEast.

"Canada's Outdoor Farm Show is an excellent venue to celebrate the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program's 25 year anniversary," says Rob Black, Executive Director for The Centre for Rural Leadership. "Many of our alumni make this innovative and worthwhile Show an annual event not to be missed. We hope they will join us at COFS on the opening day of the Show as we celebrate 25 years of agricultural leadership training excellence through the AALP program."

Established in 1984, AALP is delivered by The Centre for Rural Leadership (TCRL). Over 19 months, approximately 30 participants per class learn about the various aspects of leadership, organizational development theories and practices, government and political processes, economics, trade policies and global affairs pertaining to agriculture. Through peer networking, they also examine sector and industry-related issues here in Ontario, as well as globally through study travel components across North American and internationally.

Earlier this summer, the selection of participants in the 2009-2011 program (Class # 13) was made by the TCRL Board (see attached). Thirteen class members represent primary production agriculture through vegetables, field & cash crops, tobacco, fruit, egg poultry, dairy and beef production. The remainder of the group comes from the agri-business and agri-food sectors, the federal government and the provincial government and its agencies.

In addition to anniversary celebrations, The Centre for Rural Leadership and 4-H Ontario will once again partner with Monsanto Canada at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show, donating \$5.00 to both groups for every attendee that visits Monsanto's GenuityTM Technology Expo during the Show. For producers, this is an excellent opportunity to support these organizations making a difference to ag leadership in Ontario while learning first-hand the newest cropping technologies.

For more information on AALP, visit www.aalp.on.ca

Canada's Outdoor Farm Show will be held September 15, 16 & 17, 2009 at Canada's Outdoor Park, Woodstock, ON. For more information, visit www.OutOfoorFarmShow.com

