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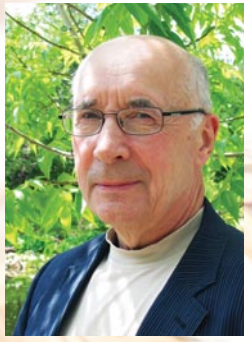
Ag-West Bio Inc.

Growing biobusiness for a bright **tomorrow**

Ag-West Bio Inc. 2009-2010 Annual Report

president's message



We live today as members of a global society in which we face many challenges: slow recovery from a major recession, predictions of serious impacts of global climate change, health care for an aging population and the need to feed more than nine billion people by 2050.

However, we also live in a world in which exciting discoveries in the biosciences can provide solutions to many of these challenges. For example, the rapidly emerging field of genomics has already begun to provide benefits to human health and quality of life. We can also expect important new benefits of bioscience investment in food production and quality, and in the development of renewable, bio-based materials and industrial products. The role of science in addressing global challenges was explored by presenters at ABIC 2010 hosted by Ag-West Bio September 12-15.

This was the 10th ABIC, and it was fitting that the conference returned to its roots for this milestone year. ABIC was the brainchild of Dr. Murray McLaughlin when he was president of Ag-West Biotech, with the first conference being organized in 1996. The theme of ABIC 2010 was Bridging Biology & Business, and presentations answered the question, "how can we feed ourselves, protect our planet, maintain our health - and still make a living?"

Saskatchewan has played, and will continue to play, a major role in ag-biotechnology with Ag-West Bio playing a catalytic role in building bridges across public and private sector organizations and promoting the commercialization of novel agbiotech products and processes. Support from provincial and national research centres and a spirit of cooperation in the business community enables Saskatchewan companies to grow and find solutions to these questions.

Using biotechnology, Saskatchewan scientists are developing crops that can tolerate harsh climates and resist attack by pathogens and pests. They are giving farmers the tools to produce more nutritious food. By developing value-added products from oilseed crops, they are helping the world become less dependent on petroleum products. Bioremediation technologies are being developed to clean up contaminated soil and water. Vaccines and new diagnostic tools are improving our health care.

Ag-West Bio is grateful to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and Growing Forward, for providing renewed financial support for three more years of activity. Ag-West Bio will continue its work of bridging biology and business, striving to make Saskatchewan the most vibrant ag-bioeconomy in the country.

Wilf Keller

letter from the chair

The future for those involved in Saskatchewan's agricultural bioeconomy sectors and for Ag-West Bio has never looked brighter or held more promise.

Over the past year, Ag-West successfully completed its strategic plan, clearly identifying the path forward, and responding to the needs of our major stakeholders and members. The competent staff at Ag-West Bio is now executing that plan and we can see the profile and the reach of Ag-West extend into our communities.

This year, Ag-West Bio and the ABIC Foundation hosted the international conference, ABIC 2010, bringing scientists, businesses and decision makers from across the world together to collaborate, network and brainstorm. The conference was a huge success and we were proud to be a part of it.

The end of our fiscal year provides an opportunity for us to say thank you to the board members who are leaving the board. This year, we offer our gratitude to both Armand Lavoie and John Hyshka, who have served as Board Chairs during their terms. Ron Styles and Joe Vidal have been Committee Chairs and important contributors to our board; because of other significant responsibilities they must tend to, they are leaving the board with the end of their terms. We thank Armand, John, Ron and Joe, for their wisdom and commitment to Ag-West Bio that has brought the organization to a better place over the last few years.

Deserving a special thank you is outgoing board member Pete Desai, who served on the Ag-West Biotech board and on the Ag-West Bio board for well over a decade. Pete has been invaluable to the organization for both his expertise and his enthusiasm.

Thank you for your support of Ag-West Bio, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to assure you that we are focused on making Ag-West an outstanding contributor to the ag-bioeconomy in Saskatchewan. Our partnerships, collaborations and entrepreneurial spirit, combined with the aspirations of our members will result in growth for the industry and success for our province.

Our final thank you goes to the staff at Ag-West Bio, with whom we work closely and share a vision for the future.

Susan Milburn

Vision: To be Saskatchewan's catalyst for building Canada's most vibrant ag-bioeconomy

Mission Statement: To enable the development and commercialization of innovation by linking research to industry for a diversified Saskatchewan economy

Mandate: To provide leadership as a catalyst, to link existing capabilities and resources, in order to strengthen ag-bioeconomy industries in Saskatchewan.

Ag-West Bio Staff

President and CEO: Wilf Keller
Manager, Finance and Administration: Kim Riel
Director of Commercialization: Brad Bly
Communications Director: Jackie Robin
Senior Events Planner: Brenda Scott
Office Assistant: Allison Sigstad
Research Analyst: Nicola Goosen

Ag-West Bio Board of Directors

Chair: Susan Milburn – Raymond James Ltd.
Armand Lavoie – Foragen Technology Management Inc.
Abdul Jalil – Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
Pete Desai – Desai & Desai Inc.
John Hyshka – Phenomenome Discoveries Inc.
Ron Styles – SaskTel (formerly with Crown Investments Corporation)
Joe Vidal – Bioriginal Food & Science Corporation
Brian Rossnagel – Researcher, U of S Crop Development Centre
Jerome Konecsni – National Research Council-Plant Biotechnology Institute
Brent Zettl – Prairie Plant Systems Inc.
Barb Stefanyshyn-Coté – Lumec Farms Ltd.

facing the challenges of a changing world

The bio-industry has come a long way since Ag-West Bio opened its doors in 1989, when the company was launched as a catalyst to accelerate the growth of the agbiotech cluster in Saskatchewan. Developing the bioeconomy would create value for our agriculture-based province; by using science to enhance our abundant natural resources we would bring more wealth to our farmers and our province.

That continues to be our goal; but the world has changed.

Today, there is a sense of urgency as we brace for the predicted effects of climate change combined with the growing population. Every time we experience unusual weather conditions, hear of hunger in the developing world, cities running out of room for garbage, dangerous smog conditions or water shortages, we realize we must find a way to live without depleting the limited resources of this planet – to find sustainable solutions that will create a world where everyone has enough food to eat, water to drink and clean air to breathe.

In North America, the majority of our producers have adopted biotechnology, food is abundant and cheap, and much of the population is relatively wealthy. We have the luxury to purchase foods that are expensive to grow if we wish to do so.

However, the majority of the six billion people on the planet live in a much different reality; in many countries, just finding enough to eat is a daily struggle.

The challenge of feeding the world's growing population was a common theme among the keynote speakers at ABIC 2010. If predictions are accurate, by 2050 we will need to produce twice as much food in order to feed nine billion people on the planet – and do so with less land and water.

Dr. Clive James, chairman of the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-Biotech Applications (ISAAA) and Julian Cribb, principal of Julian Cribb & Associates, and author of "The Coming Famine," agree that food security is crucial to peace. In his keynote presentation, James quoted a favourite saying of his longtime friend and colleague, Norman Borlaug: "you cannot have peace on empty stomachs."

As well, researchers are discovering that prenatal nutrition is a factor in lifetime health; not only having adequate food, but also quality food, especially for children and expectant mothers, is essential. With a great number of people subsisting on rice and cassava, using biotechnology to enhance these crops to include more nutrients helps developing nations in their quest for a better quality of life.

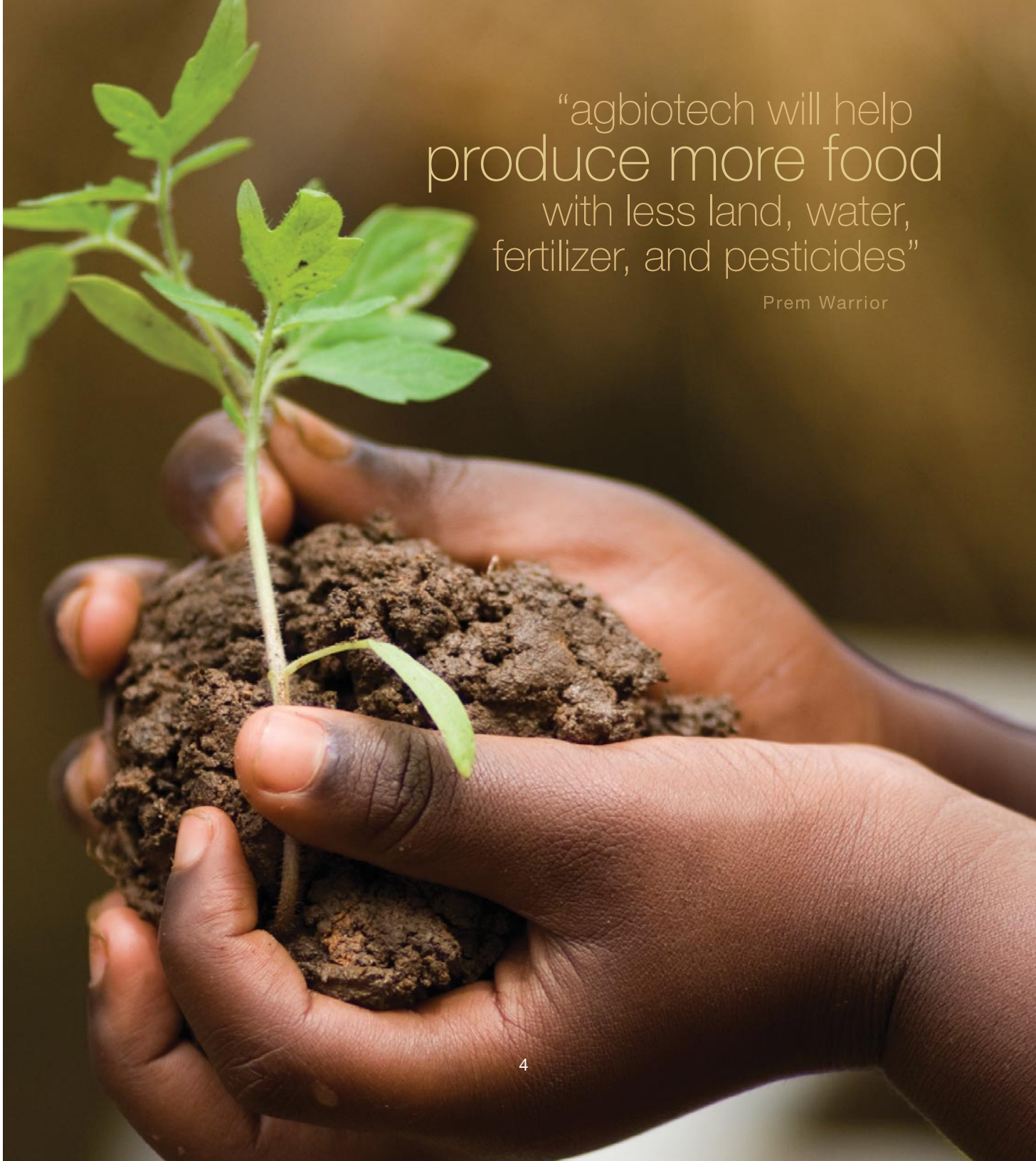
Dr. Prem Warrior, senior program manager for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, says "I believe agbiotech will help produce more food with less land, water, fertilizer, and pesticides."

Farmers around the world are embracing biotechnology, especially in countries with the most mouths to feed, like China and India. Africa is just beginning to adopt biotechnology, with South Africa leading the way. According to James, 16 developing countries are officially growing biotech crops, although there are likely cases of "unofficial" adoption directly by farmers.

Besides the increasing need for food, developing nations are seeking a lifestyle equal to that enjoyed by the Western world (including our love of cars). This translates into a greater demand for energy. Unless more sustainable energy solutions are developed, and adequate policies put in place, keeping the air and water clean will become even more difficult.

Driven by global concerns about overload on our planet, scientists are searching for solutions and industry is stepping up to fill the demand for 'greener' products and processes. Biotechnology is a powerful tool that can be used to solve the myriad challenges coming our way.

Ag-West Bio continues with the goal of making Saskatchewan the most vibrant bioeconomy in Canada, growing biobusiness for a bright tomorrow.



commercializing ag-bio research

by Brad Bly, B.S.A, MA, EDFP
Director of Commercialization

Saskatchewan is a province with an abundance of renewable agricultural resources and opportunities. For strong industry activity, we must be competitive in a dynamic global marketplace, and innovation of value-added products and services is essential.

To develop, sustain, and expand the agbiotech sector, Ag-West Bio strives to align stakeholder expertise and services with industry in order to advance innovation into the marketplace. The purpose of innovation is to create wealth. Commercializing new products and processes into existing and emerging markets is particularly challenging.

One challenge for start-up companies is accessing the early-stage, high-risk capital needed to move research from lab bench to market. The Ag-West Bio Commercialization Fund is designed to fill this gap, providing early-stage financing to companies that have promising technologies and sound commercialization plans. To help companies achieve pre-commercialization milestones integral in their business plans, we help them find additional funding sources to augment our Commercialization Fund. We also provide business planning input and link companies to technical assistance providers.

This year we helped more than 20 early-stage companies in the agricultural biotechnology, bioproducts, bioprocesses, natural health products and functional foods sectors with commercialization planning. This included reviewing and identifying gaps in business plans; linking businesses to technical assistance providers, industry stakeholders and research and commercial partners; developing intellectual property (IP) protection strategy guidelines; regulatory review and links to regulatory assistance; capitalization strategy input and links with capital providers; investor due diligence insights; financing and facilitation of funding from private and public sources at various pre-commercialization stages.

MPT Mustard Products & Technologies Inc. is one member company that used our services this year. A Saskatoon-based company, MPT develops biological solutions for a wide variety of everyday ecological challenges. Using Saskatchewan-grown mustard seed, in combination with its innovative processing method, MPT has developed natural, environmentally-safe fertilizer, bio-pesticide and bio-fumigants for commercial and residential applications.

The growing demand for biological alternatives in MPT's target markets represents a substantial opportunity, especially in the professionally managed turf and high value crop markets where pesticides such as methyl bromide are being phased out because of harmful environmental effects. Ag-West Bio assisted MPT with business planning, feasibility and capitalization input, Commercialization Fund financing approval,

and attaining a substantial additional funding approval from Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC).

Ag-West Bio focuses on the acceleration of commercialization knowledge transfer and increasing the management capacity of start-ups and early-stage companies. From August 2009 to September 2010 we planned and hosted 11 Investment and Commercialization seminars in Saskatoon and Regina, in collaboration with the Entrepreneurial Foundation of Saskatchewan. The seminars provided important information for developing companies, with topics such as commercializing and protecting IP, developing a detailed IP strategy, building strategic alliances and partnerships, understanding how investors analyze risk, raising private equity, strategies for getting disruptive technology to market, and business and corporate structuring. More than 60 Saskatchewan companies attended these seminars.

Ag-West Bio supports the Raj Manek Business Mentorship Program and its firm focus on building a strong, small-business climate. Partnering with the Raj Manek Foundation, we offer business mentorship as a service to our bio-entrepreneur clients.

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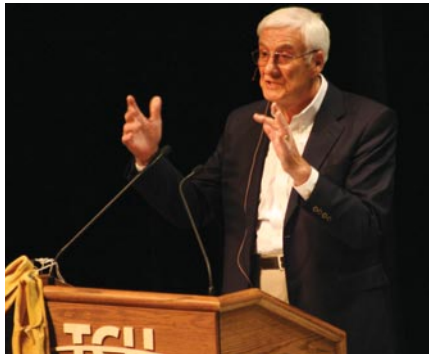
One challenge for **start-up companies** is accessing the early-stage, high-risk capital

Brad Bly, left, Ag-West Bio Director of Commercialization

In return, we recommend experienced business mentors to the Program from our network of industry stakeholders. Ag-West Bio encourages its clients to become Protégés and use the Business Mentorship Program as a valuable component in developing the skills needed for a successful business. We also work with Protégés to identify specific milestones in their technology commercialization plan.

By keeping abreast of current information on commercialization and capitalization opportunities we can help our membership meet their goals. This year we hosted an information session on agri-innovation funding programs, featuring the Saskatchewan's Deputy Minister of Agriculture and funding program managers from Saskatchewan and across Canada. This was followed with the dissemination of a funding chart outlining the available sources of capital for agbiotech pre-commercialization. Attending the Banff Venture Forum in Alberta, Life Science Alley in Minnesota, and the BIO International Convention in Chicago, we were able to bring back information about new commercial partnering and capital opportunities to our members, while marketing Saskatchewan life science companies to the world.



John Cross, a keynote speaker at ABIC 2010, won the 2010 Raj Manek Foundation Above and Beyond Award. Ag-West partners with the Raj Manek Foundation to match Protégés with mentors.

Finally, our vision of growing the Saskatchewan ag-bioeconomy includes the attraction of international companies. Bringing high-tech, growing companies to the province provides benefits in economic activity and jobs – and equally important – knowledge transfer, collaboration, research expertise, and linkages to new markets and opportunities.

In collaboration with other prominent industry stakeholders, Ag-West Bio helped attract two companies to Saskatchewan: Okanagan Specialty Fruits Inc. (headquartered in B.C.) and Metabolix, Inc. (headquartered in Massachusetts). Both companies have now established research facilities in Saskatoon. We are looking forward to working with these companies as they continue to develop and commercialize their innovative technologies.

This year Westlink intern Dr. John Mapletoft worked with us for four months. John's background in animal microbiology and the relationship between animal and human vaccine development with commercialization insights, provided a valuable contribution to our efforts. John used his existing skills, and the investment and finance skill learned at AWB, to move into a valuable role as Business Development Manager at Pan-Provincial Enterprise Inc. (PREVENT) in Saskatoon.


we offer **business mentorship**
as a service to our bio-entrepreneur clients.

Ag-West Bio works closely with the cluster to build on strengths and avoid duplication of efforts.

working together yields results

Collaboration is essential for growing the bioeconomy. Ag-West Bio works closely with the cluster to build on strengths and avoid duplication of efforts.

The science cluster in Saskatchewan encompasses two university campuses, three research parks, and provincially and nationally funded research institutions and technical training centres. These provide a solid foundation for high level research in the life sciences. Companies have access to world-class infrastructure facilities - and the expertise that comes with it.

Key organizations in the cluster include:

- Innovation Place operates three research parks in Saskatchewan, (in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert) housing over 172 organizations employing almost 4600 people. Innovation Place Saskatoon is one of the most successful university-related research parks in North America.
- The University of Saskatchewan, with seven life-science colleges – including the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, and the College of Engineering, which is very active in the biofuels research sector – along with numerous centres devoted to research.
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada – Saskatoon Research Centre, conducts research on Prairie crops to support the agri-food industry and is a major location for agbiotech R&D.
- The National Research Council – Plant Biotechnology Institute (NRC-PBI) focuses on developing plant biotechnology and new plant products and processes.
- The Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre offers expertise in product development, quality assurance and quality control, food safety training, interim processing, and business and market development.
- POS Bio-Sciences offers contract, applied R&D and small-scale toll processing in extraction, fractionation, purification, and modification of bioproducts.
- The Canadian Light Source (CLS) is the only synchrotron in Canada, and a valuable tool for researchers to view biological material at the atomic level.
- Innovation Place Bio-Processing Centre provides custom toll processing on a contract basis for the nutraceutical, cosmetic and agri-food industries.
- Saskatchewan Research Council serves a variety of industries. SRC's Analytical Labs and Facilities include GenServe Laboratories for genomic testing, a Biofuels Test Centre and the Fermentation Pilot Plant,

the only Canadian contract research facility with a veterinary biologics establishment licence, which allows employees to test and produce animal vaccines.

- Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) provides R&D services in crop processing with a focus on machinery design

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Companies have access to world-class infrastructure facilities and the expertise that comes with it.

Principal Technologist Robert Ashton operates the Saskatchewan Research Council's (SRC) Biosafety Level 2 Fermentation Pilot Plant. *(photo courtesy SRC)*

Canola was developed in Saskatoon at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, working in partnership with the University of Manitoba.

and fabrication, as well as post-harvest handling and storage, primary processing, feeds ingredient processing and oilseed processing.

- Genome Prairie, the leading organization for support and management of large-scale genomics research projects in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, has its head office in Saskatoon.
- In Regina, the University and Innovation Place have major research strengths in informatics, energy, the environment and health.

In addition, diverse products and expertise is provided by Saskatchewan private sector companies, too numerous to list here.

Saskatchewan researchers are busy developing hardy crops, more nutritious food and better feeds, giving producers more options. Some examples:

- Saskatchewan is Canada's largest producer of wheat, oats, flax, barley and canola.
- Many wheat varieties were developed here, with better disease resistance and hardy enough to handle our climate.
- Canola was developed in Saskatoon at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, in partnership with the University of Manitoba. Saskatoon continues to be the centre for canola research. 75% of Canada's canola research happens in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan produces 48% of Canada's canola.
- Canada is the world's largest exporter of flax (mainly for oil but also for fibre), and Saskatchewan is the biggest producer of all the provinces.
- Canada is the world's leading lentil, pea and chickpea exporter and Saskatchewan is the heart of Canada's pulse industry, with 99% of Canadian lentils, 80% of the pea crop, and 99% of the Canadian chick-pea crop.
- Almost 90 percent of Canadian mustard production comes from Saskatchewan.
- Canada is also a major exporter of malting barley. Harrington barley was developed here and has become a world standard for malting barley quality.
- Other crops include oats, rye, triticale, sunflower and canary seed. Work is also being done on camelina, a hardy plant with high oil content that has potential in many areas, from fuels to plastics, cosmetics and agriculture feeds.
- The Crop Development Centre at the U of S has released nearly 300 commercial crop varieties since it was created in 1971. As of 2009, 69 varieties of pulses have been introduced and become available to growers.

The health sector is also being affected by advances in biotechnology. Researchers are exploring the effects of functional foods on human health and developing plant-made pharmaceuticals. Resourceful entrepreneurs are using locally grown crops, and exploring the potential of native plant species.

Companies active in the functional food ingredients market supply oat ingredients, pulses, sour cherry, roasted flaxseed, essential fatty acids, fenugreek gum, hempseed products, pea starch, fibre and protein, micronized pulses and grains, and plant and animal extracts.

Saskatchewan has become a major player in the areas of vaccines and genomics research, and bio-diagnostic tools are being developed as less invasive options for medical care.

The International Vaccine Centre is under construction at VIDO (Vaccine & Infectious Disease Organization). Scheduled to open in 2011, InterVac is a level 3 containment centre for vaccine research and development.

Saskatchewan has become
a major player
in the areas of **vaccines**
and **genomics research**

Opportunities in renewable resources

The growth and production of oilseed crops dedicated to producing lubricants, plastics, polymers, and specialty fuel offers opportunities for Saskatchewan companies already working in this area. Another opportunity exists in 'environmental biotechnology,' the use of environmentally friendly bioprocesses in the petroleum and mining sectors – for example, technology to reduce greenhouse gas, or the development of plants that can help with the remediation of soil. One of Genome Prairie's current projects is exploring the use of microbial technology to improve the recovery of oil from existing wells.

growing competitive biobusiness

Ag-West Bio offers networking opportunities to the local bio-community.

It has been a busy year at Ag-West Bio. Renewed funding from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture means the confidence to continue on our mission to grow biobusiness in Saskatchewan. With this funding term and Ag-West Bio's new strategic plan, the focus is on commercialization. Our two main objectives: to enhance and build the bio-cluster here and to make sure it's competitive, viable and growing; and to build the industrial component through start-ups, and company growth and attraction.

Early this year, Dr. Wilf Keller, a respected leader of the life science community, took the helm at Ag-West Bio, while maintaining his title of president and CEO of Genome Prairie.

Although each company has a distinct mandate and continues to operate with autonomy while maintaining their corporate brands, their goals are complementary; Genome Prairie strives to build science capacity in genomics and bio-science research, while Ag-West Bio focuses on technology transfer and commercialization opportunities. As Wilf puts it, "To have those activities coordinated in a seamless way is a great benefit to Saskatchewan."

Creating Connections

An important part of business development is helping companies connect. As John Cross stressed at the ABIC 2010 Public Forum, its "people things" that matter the most. Business relationships, like personal relationships, are built on trust. With that in mind, Ag-West Bio strives to offer networking opportunities to the local bio-community.

The Life Science Showcase

A new series of networking events launched this year gives companies an opportunity to talk about their background, their research, or to share their commercialization strategies. They may be established, Saskatchewan-based companies who have business or research news to share, companies relocating to Saskatchewan, or traveling through the city and of strategic interest to our community.

Leigh Marquess of Quantum Genetics, Neal Carter of Okanagan Specialty Fruits, Mark Pickard of InfraReady Products, John Hyshka of Phenomenome Discoveries and Deborah Haines of Saskatoon Colostrum Company each told their stories at Life Science Showcase events.

Commercialization Luncheon Series

Eureka! You have developed a technology that has the potential to change the world. Now what? Without commercializing your product or process, no one will benefit from your hard work. Bringing research to commercialization takes perseverance, patience, and a great deal of planning. No matter what the business, there are common questions that need to be answered: how do I protect my intellectual property? Are there gaps in my business plan? Where can I find funding?

The Commercialization Luncheon series was launched in 2009 to help entrepreneurs with the many questions they may already have, and even to teach them what questions they should be asking.

Working with the community

Ag-West, SREDA and Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada's Invest Canada – through Community Initiatives funding (ICCI), jointly commissioned a guide for developing and branding a science and technology cluster. The guide helps us to understand what is

working and what needs further development in our efforts to create a cohesive voice and image for Saskatchewan's life science community.

Communicating to communicators

In January, a workshop co-hosted by Ag-West Bio and SREDA was held for business development officers and communicators in the sector. Presenters included Jim Wadleigh, Executive Director at Guelph Partnership for Innovation, who described the work GPI was doing to grow the bio-economy in the Guelph region. Tourism Saskatoon and Enterprise Saskatchewan each outlined the resources they have available to communicators to sell the City and the province, and advertising agency MGM described the benefits of using a 'creative platform' in marketing.

Money makes the world go 'round

A capacity crowd of over 100 took part in an information session of federal and provincial Agri-Innovation Programs in December, 2009. The workshop was hosted by Ag-West Bio, with presentations by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. Alanna Koch, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan, provided an overview of the Ministry of Agriculture, its strategic direction and its priorities. Ms. Koch

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Jerome Konecsni, Director General of NRC-PBI joins the band to celebrate at Biotech & Beer at Boffins

Remarkable pioneering work has taken place right here in Saskatchewan

Farmers and scientists worked side by side at the Biodiesel Workshop

emphasized the importance of all government departments working together as a cohesive unit to address issues that affect agriculture.

Showcasing Saskatchewan to the world: BIO 2010

Ag-West Bio hosted the Saskatchewan booth and organized the trip with funding from Enterprise Saskatchewan, bringing a delegation that included companies, researchers and business development groups. Saskatchewan participants agree that political involvement is vital for the province to be seen as a legitimate player in the global biotech industry. The presence of government representatives at BIO would add tremendous value for participants, allowing inclusion in certain meetings and portraying the province as positive and welcoming to the life science industry. Plans are underway for a Saskatchewan delegation to attend BIO 2011 in Washington, DC.

Bustling with energy: The Biodiesel Workshop

In March, Ag-West Bio hosted a Biodiesel Workshop at Innovation Place, developed and conducted by Dr. Rex Newkirk of the Canadian International Grains Institute. Farmers and scientists worked side by side to learn about this alternative energy solution. For some of the 28 enthusiastic participants, gaining a better understanding of the process was enough, while a few were exploring the possibility of getting into the biofuels business. Zenneth Faye, Executive Manager of Milligan Bio-Tech Inc., a biodiesel manufacturing plant operating in Foam Lake, SK, spoke to the group in the afternoon, sharing his insights into the complexities of the business of biodiesel.

Celebrating Innovation

A BIOTECanada initiative, National Biotechnology Week celebrates the innovation of Canadian scientists and entrepreneurs. Saskatchewan launched Biotech Week (Sept. 17-24) with a luncheon at Innovation Place for more than 60 participants.

Minister of Innovation Rob Norris spoke of the talent and ambition, and the “remarkable pioneering work that has taken place, from a Canadian and global context, right here.” He cited employment statistics that give the province a rosy glow: Saskatchewan has the lowest unemployment rate in the country, and “We have more than 7000 jobs open and available to the people of this province and around the world, and there is increasing interest in the opportunities that are here.”

Ken Loeppky, Vice President of Research Park Operations told the story of the award winning Innovation Place research parks; and 15 year-old Rui Song (national winner of the 2010 Sanofi-Aventis BioTalent Challenge), wowed the audience with wisdom beyond her years, sharing her experience of the SABC competition and her love of biotechnology.

Education Outreach Days included workshops for high school students at the U of S College of Agriculture and Bioresources and NRC-PBI, and a workshop at Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST) for teachers and counsellors.

The Second Annual Biotech & Beer at Boffins was a great finale for the week, with Saskatoon’s Mayor Don Atchison, Dr. Reno Pontarollo (CSO for Genome Prairie) and Jerome Konecsni (Director General of NRC-

PBI) addressing the 50 guests who gathered to raise a toast to the science of biotechnology.

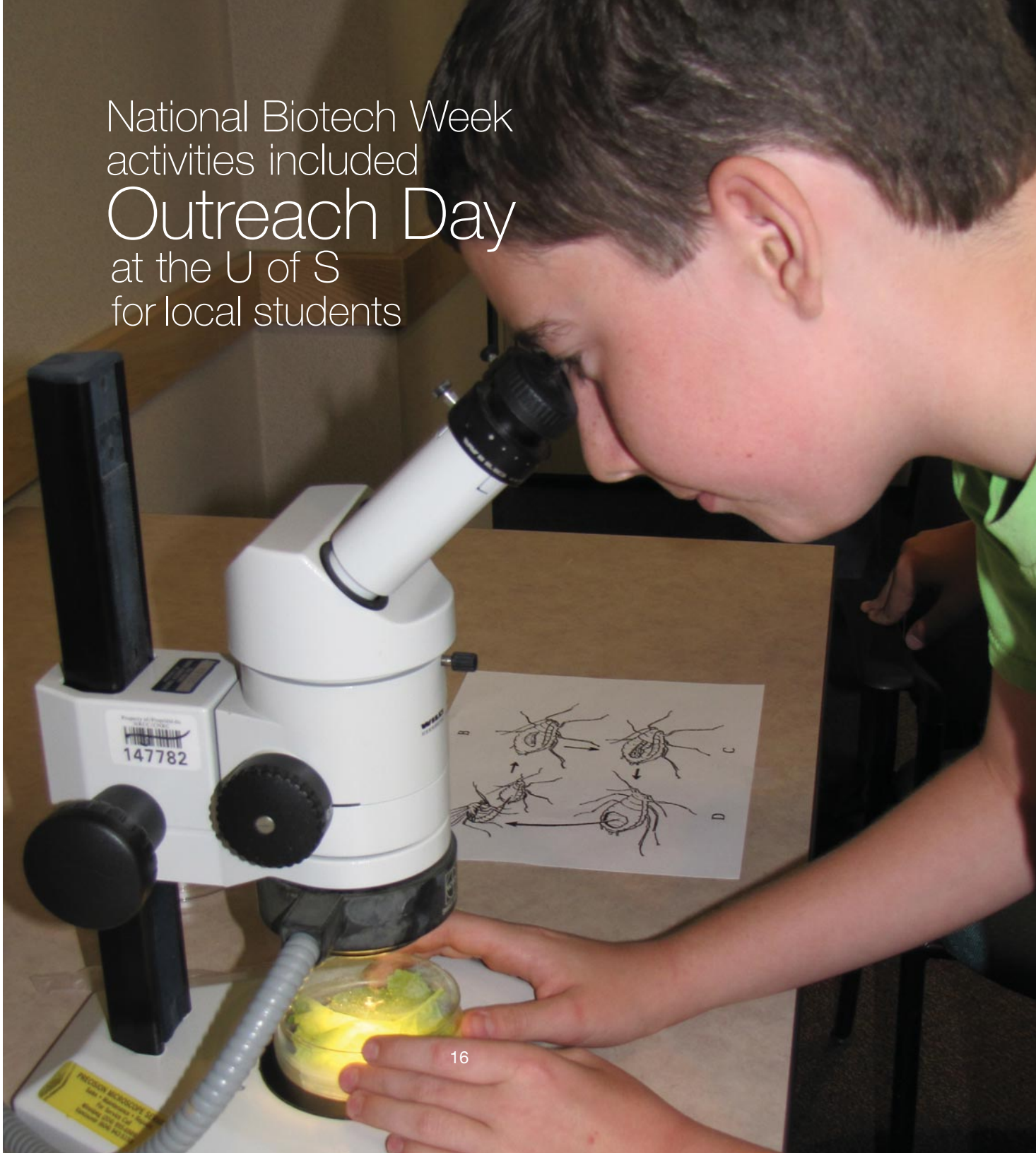
Getting the word out

The online edition of Bio Bulletin was launched in March 2010. Bio-Bulletin articles tell the stories of Saskatchewan's bio-community, successes of our local companies and organizations, as well as new technologies being developed and commercialized. It includes information about funding opportunities, reports on regulatory changes and lets you know what we are up to at Ag-West. We encourage organizations within the cluster to use the Bio-Bulletin as a communications vehicle to help get their messages out.

Ag-West Bio Inc.
BIO-BULLETIN
News from Saskatchewan's Life Science Sector

Go-bio, our online directory of Saskatchewan-based bioproducts and biofuels organizations can be found at **www.go-bio.ca**

Ag-West Bio staff is active on a variety of volunteer boards, such as SEDA and Science City. Ag-West was also instrumental in the AAFC Growing Forward 2010 Agri-Investment Symposium coming to Saskatoon later this year.



National Biotech Week activities included Outreach Day at the U of S for local students

Welcoming the world's agbiotech community

Saskatchewan premier Brad Wall announced an additional $5 million in funding for agricultural biotech research at ABIC 2010.

ABIC 2010: Bridging Biology & Business

Two years of planning culminated in a whirlwind of activity over four days from September 12 - 15 at ABIC 2010. The international event was held at Saskatoon's TCU Place, downtown Saskatoon. 66 session speakers and five keynote presenters shared their expertise with over 500 delegates who attended the meetings, sessions and networking events. The conference was a world-class event that met the theme of Bridging Biology & Business.

Along with the program, numerous partnering meetings were arranged for delegates. A trade show with 34 booths and an international poster competition with 48 posters added to the value of the conference.

The kickoff event was the ABIC 2010 Public Forum on Sunday, featuring Discovery Channel's Jay Ingram and well-known Saskatoon business mentor John Cross (former president and CEO of Philom Bios).

The highlights:

Keynote presenters at ABIC 2010 were Dr. John Hamer, Managing Director Malaysia, Latin America, Burrill & Company; Julian Cribb, author of "The Coming Famine: Risks and Solutions for Global Food Security." Dr. Karl Dawson, Director of Worldwide Research for Alltech; Dr. Clive James, founder and Chairman of ISAAA (International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications); and Dr. Prem Warrior, Senior Project Manager with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Development Program.

An announcement from Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall for an additional $5 million in funding for agricultural biotech research drew a bevy of reporters to the conference on September 13th. The announcement was well-timed, directly following a call to action by keynote speaker Julian Cribb for more resources for ag-biotechnology research around the world. The funding will come from the provincial government's Agriculture Development Fund (ADF).

Wilf Keller tries out the Firebike on stage at TCU Place.

The Opening Ceremonies at ABIC 2010: Dr. David Bailey, President and CEO of Genome Alberta, Saskatchewan Minister of Innovation, Rob Norris, Mayor Don Atchison, Brad Trost MP, Saskatoon-Humboldt, Jerome Konecsni, ABIC Foundation Director

Ag-West Bio also hosted a welcoming reception for the National Research Council of Canada's new president John McDougall.

ABIC 2010 Poster Competition winners:

Energy stream: Thushan Sanjeewa and Mahdi Vaezi

Health stream: Lucas Arzola

Sustainability stream: Anne Awah Selatsa

ABIC Foundation Bursary: Anne Awah Selatsa

Genome Canada Bursaries: Mahdi Vaezi, Koel Reed, Erin Dul, Atif Kamran, Anton Lamers

The ABIC 2011 Team from South Africa at the ABIC 2010 Bayer CropScience Gala.

Top: Robert Leblanc runs CIGI's Flower Power Biodiesel Trailer at ABIC 2010.

Middle: Koel Reed from the University of Alberta took home a Saskatchewan-made Firebike.

Bottom: The Closing Panel at ABIC 2010. Left to right: Wilf Keller, Diran Makinde, Jerome Konecsni, Ron Kehrig, Brent Zettl.

Ag-West Bio members

Advance-Tek Consulting Inc.
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Agriculture in the Classroom
Alberta Research Council
Becker Underwood, Inc.
Beres Printing and Publishing
BioExx Specialty Proteins Ltd.
Bioriginal Food & Science Corp.
BioTalent Canada
BIOTECanada
Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology
Canadian Light Source Inc.
CanMar Grain Products Ltd.
College of Agriculture & Bioresources, U of S
Crop Development Centre, U of S
Crown Investments Corportation of Saskatchewan
Desai & Desai Inc.
Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc.
Edwards School of Business, U of S
Emerald Seed Products Ltd.
Enterprise Saskatchewan
Entrepreneurial Foundation of Saskatchewan
Environment Canada, Environmental Protection Operations
Farmers of North America
Feeds Innovation Institute, U of S
Foragen Technologies Management Inc.
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, Trade Commissioner Service
G & D Martin Family Farms
Genome Prairie
Gowlings Lafleur Henderson LLP
Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce
HeadsUp Plant Protectants Inc.
Industry Liaison Office (ILO), U of S
Innovation Place
Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy
Life Science Association of Manitoba
Linnaeus Plant Sciences Inc.
Lumec Farms Ltd.
Manitoba Food Processors Association
March Consulting Associates Inc.
Milligan Bio-Tech Inc.
MPT Mustard Products & Technologies Inc.
Mustard Capital Inc.
National Research Council - Plant Biotechnology Institute
Nipawin Biomass Ethanol New Generation Co-operative Ltd.
Northern Vigor Berries Inc.
Novozymes Biologicals BioAg
Pfizer Canada Inc.
Phenomenome Discoveries Inc.
POS Bio-Sciences
Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI)
Prairie Plant Systems Inc.
Quantum Genetics Canada Inc.
Raymond James Ltd.
Sask Trade & Export Partnership
Saskatchewan Advanced Technology Association (SATA)
Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission
Saskatchewan Canola Growers Association
Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission
Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre Inc.
Saskatchewan Food Processors Association
Saskatchewan Fruit Growers Association
Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
Saskatchewan Pulse Growers
Saskatchewan Research Council
Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority (SREDA)
SaskEnergy Inc.
Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers' Association (SEIMA)
Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology - Kelsey Campus
SNC Lavalin Agro
Springboard West Innovations Inc.
Syngenta Seeds Canada Inc.
The Saskatoon Colostrum Company Ltd.
University of Regina
Vaccine & Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO)
Western Canadian Functional Food and Nutraceutical Network

Financial statements are available upon request.

Funding for Ag-West Bio is provided by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and Growing Forward.

Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

Growing Forward
A federal-provincial-territorial initiative

Photo sources: istockphoto.com, Saskatchewan Research Council and Ag-West Bio Inc.

Ag-West Bio Inc. 101-111 Research Drive, Saskatoon, SK, Canada
Tel: 306-975-1939 • Fax: 306-975-1966 • Email: info@agwest.sk.ca • Web: www.agwest.sk.ca