



We grow biobusiness in Saskatchewan

- Looking for connections, training or support? We can help.
- Are you an investor looking for opportunities in the agri-food sector? Learn what Saskatchewan has to offer.

Ag-West Bio is Saskatchewan's bioscience industry association – a catalyst and connector for the provincial bioeconomy.

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan is the heart of the country's agricultural biotechnology sector and home to one of the most vibrant bioscience innovation clusters in Canada.

Located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Ag-West Bio is the province's bioscience industry association – a catalyst and connector for the provincial bioeconomy. We work with industry stakeholders, innovators and investors to help bring research to the market. We also assist local agri-food start-ups and companies who want to relocate to this region.



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Where we came from

Back in 1989, Ag-West Bio was launched with a mandate to provide leadership for the biotechnology sector from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. Since then, we have been supporting the commercialization of bioscience technologies in the areas of sustainable crop production, food ingredients and processing, health, environment, biofuels and bioproducts. We have nurtured many homegrown companies and helped others relocate to Saskatchewan. We bring people together to learn and network while we promote the benefits of science and innovation.

WHAT WE DO

- 1. Support businesses
- 2. Catalyze initiatives
- 3. Create connections
- 4. Promote science

OUR VISION

Saskatchewan is a world leader in bringing agricultural bioscience innovation to commercialization.

OUR MISSION

Accelerating innovation and enabling companies to commercialize research in agricultural and food biosciences.

Support for businesses

Ag-West Bio helps move research to the market and grow agri-food business in the province.

By combining expertise and experience, we provide personalized input and a suite of services tailored to your company's unique commercialization needs. We provide a centralized hub for linking private business with market knowledge, advisory input, mentoring and guidance. And we provide linkages to research and market networks. We can help you advance your business plan based on opportunity and feasibility, which you can use to gain investors and strategic partnerships.

Commercialization Fund

There is a crucial stage that start-up companies need to navigate – often called the "Valley of Death" – when they are not yet able to attract venture capital, but they're beyond start-up investment. This is the stage that Ag-West Bio's Technology Commercialization Fund is meant for.

Ag-West Bio financing is in the form of flexible and patient capital and targets initiatives where start-ups (or expanding agri-food companies) show that a clear pathway to commercialization has been established, with suitable return on investment and significant benefit to Saskatchewan.

Our rigorous due-diligence process leads to investor confidence, enabling our investee companies to leverage Ag-West Bio's investment dollars.



Catalyzing initiatives

Saskatchewan's bioscience research and development cluster continue to grow. Exciting new technologies are emerging from this cluster, such as digital



agriculture, imaging, biologicals, and the growth of the plant protein sector.

By staying up to date with research and commercialization activity and market trends, we recognize opportunities when they arise. Ag-West Bio acts as a catalyst, making connections and encouraging collaboration so the province can benefit from those opportunities. **Recent Aq-West Bio** initiatives include the Protein Industries Canada supercluster (PIC) and the Global Agri-Food Advancement Partnership (GAAP). We are currently involved in the development of the Saskatoon Food Cluster to support the creation of more food and ingredient companies in the province.

Creating connections

Business is built on relationships. One of Ag-West Bio's roles is to help people make the connections they need to grow their businesses.

To do this, we bring groups together in many forums, including hosting meetings and workshops, as well as organizing tours for international visitors. Ag-West Bio manages the Agricultural Bioscience Innovation Centre (ABIC) Speaker Series bringing experts from around the world to inspire and teach entrepreneurs and the public about bioscience innovation.

The Knowledge Farm is an event series that we co-host with Innovation Place in the Boffins Event Centre to encourage our community to explore all kinds of agri-food topics.

Take advantage of the networking opportunities we offer. Our Weekly Update and online event calendar can keep you up to date!

Open communication

Keeping information moving is an important aspect of business development. In the bioscience sector, information must flow along many lines – from researchers to entrepreneurs, investors and consumers.

With good communication networks, entrepreneurs can discover potential partnerships and learn from others with more business experience. People who have already navigated the path to commercialization are usually happy to share their knowledge.

Visit Ag-West Bio's website for information about Saskatchewan's bioscience organizations and activities. Check out our blogs, and subscribe to our e-magazine, the Bio-Bulletin.

Find us on social:



www.agwest.sk.ca

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Join Ag-West Bio

The Ag-West Bio team is working to grow the bioeconomy in Saskatchewan – and you can be a part of it!

Get connected and stay informed by becoming an Ag-West Bio member.

As a member, you support our efforts to promote Saskatchewan's bioscience capacity. Keep us aware of your needs, so we can work for you. Knowing your



challenges, we strive to keep our government informed so the sector can flourish.

Visit the website to learn more. www.agwest.sk.ca

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