2026 Western Canada Conference on Soil Health & Grazing

December 8 - 10, 2026

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Tuesday, December 8

7:30 AM	**Registration & Tradeshow**
8:50 AM	**Welcome & Opening Remarks** - **Minister of Ag & Irrigation -**
9:00 AM	Dr. Preston Sorenson You Can't Out-Farm Your Parent Material: Carbon Mapping Lessons from Alberta's Living Labs
10:00 AM	Keith Reid Soil Organic Carbon and Nitrogen Cycling in Your Soils
11:00 AM	Dr. Yamily Zavala Listening to the Soil: Building Knowledge Through Soil Health Benchmarking and Monitoring
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Lunch & Tradeshow**
12:30 PM	Dr. Cynthia Kallenbach Soil Organic Matter, Microbes, and Pathways to Soil Resilience
1:30 PM	Emily Ford Boots on the Ground: A Real Look at Regenerative Agriculture
2:30 PM	**Coffee Break & Tradeshow**
3:00 PM	Dr. Jill Clapperton A Dirt to Soil Odyssey
4:00 PM	Producer Panel Crops & Soil Health
5:30 PM	**Evening Mixer with Appetizers & Cash Bar at Tradeshow**

Wednesday, December 9

6:45 AM - 7:55 AM	**Registration, Breakfast & Tradeshow**
8:00 AM	Dr. J.C. Cahill Grazing, Soil Microbes & Plant Root Decision Making: *There is a lot more going on than we have realized*
9:00 AM	Sally Bernard Why Cropland (and Farmers) Need Livestock
10:00 AM	**Coffee Break & Tradeshow**
10:30 AM	Michael Thompson Practical Farming in Arid Environments
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Lunch & Tradeshow**
12:30 PM	Jenna Sarich A Systems Approach to Evaluating Sustainable Livestock Production: *Global Insights from a Nuffield Scholar*
1:15 PM	Dan Kittredge Nutrient Density
2:30 PM	**Coffee Break & Tradeshow**
3:00 PM	Producer Panel Livestock & Soil Health
6:30 PM	**Conference Banquet**
7:30 PM	General Rick Hillier Leading From the Front: How Canada Changes the World

Thursday, December 10

6:45 AM - 8:00 AM	**Breakfast & Tradeshow**
8:00 AM	Dr. Susan Markus Invisible Solutions or Invisible Problems? Exploring Virtual Fencing Technology and Water Quality Assessment
8:45 AM	Producer Panel Technology on the Ranch
9:30 AM	**Panel Q&A**
10:00 AM	**Coffee Break & Tradeshow**
10:30 AM	Kathy Larson Does RA Pay? The Economics of Regenerative Agriculture
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Lunch & Tradeshow**
12:30 PM	Dr. Susan Duckett Composition and Quality of Forage Finished Beef
1:45 PM	Lorin Doerksen Rancher Perspective on Finishing Beef on Forages
3:00 PM	**Safe Travels Home**