

2026 Western Canada Conference on Soil Health & Grazing

December 7-10, 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