

Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Program Update

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With Growing Forward 2 (GF2) coming to a close on March 30th, 2018, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry is busy developing new programming for the upcoming Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) grant program. Programming under CAP will be replacing the current GF2 programs starting on April 1st, 2018. Not all programs will be available on April 1st, however each program area will be sharing more information over the coming months; please check the Canadian Agricultural Partnership website for up-to-date program developments.

The Environmental Stewardship program planning team has been looking for new ways to enhance the grant program while retaining many of the water quality Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) that have been supported in the past. The new program will be looking to include programming for environmental concerns affecting soil health, water quality and air quality, while supporting agriculture industry lead sustainability initiatives. The specifics of the program are still being determined and more information will be shared once final decisions have been made.

In the meantime, if you are planning to participate in the CAP Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change program, please be aware that a current (at present this means within 10 years)

Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) will continue to be a requirement to access funds. If you do not have an EFP or are looking to update your EFP, please contact the Alberta EFP Program or your local EFP Technician.

Currently, the Environmental Stewardship team is busy preparing for the release of the new program. The team is looking forward to helping farmers continue the great work they have been building upon over the past 10 years. If you have any questions or concerns about the Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change program please contact <u>Dale Chrapko</u> or by phone at 780-644-1969.