



CANADIAN
CATTLEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

National Voice Of Cattle Producers

News Release

Cattlemen's Young Leaders announce 2015 semi-finalists

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Calgary, AB – The Cattlemen's Young Leaders (CYL) program is pleased to announce the 24 semi-finalists vying for 16 mentorship positions in the 2015 program year.

The semi-finalists were selected from a pool of nearly 70 applicants, a response which CYL Program Coordinator Jolene Noble said reflects the ongoing popularity of the youth mentorship program. "The program continues to grow due in no small part to the quality of our graduates and their enthusiasm for the program and our industry. CYL alumni have done an excellent job promoting the program to their peers and encouraging youth to apply," she said. "With each year and new set of applicants, I am even more impressed with the calibre of individuals in the Canadian beef industry."

The 24 semi-finalists were selected based on their online applications which were evaluated by a panel of judges. The finalists will be selected at the CYL Spring Forum which will be held from March 26-28, 2015 in Saskatoon.

The 2015 CYL semi-finalists are:

- **Alberta:** Benjamin Campbell – *Black Diamond*, Robert Dixon – *Vermillion*, Jodi Flaig – *Two Hills*, Kaleen Harris – *Lethbridge*, Brett Hassard – *Medicine Hat*, Elizabeth Homerosky – *Calgary*, James Jenkins – *Okotoks*, Angela Kumlin – *Duchess*, Jacob Onyschuk – *Legal*, Penny Patton – *Athabasca*, Ceanna Tannas – *Water Valley*, Josephine Verhallen – *Spruce Grove*, Byron Whitford – *Lethbridge*, Brittany Wiese – *Bentley*.
- **Saskatchewan:** Kyra Edwards – *Edam*, Breeanna Kelln – *Duval*, Shane Klepak – *Melfort*, Brandon Sparrow – *Vanscoy*.
- **Manitoba:** Breanna Anderson – *Swan River*, Wilco van Meijl – *Brandon*.
- **Ontario:** Sara Parkinson – *Hillsburgh*, Bethany Storey – *Guelph*, Brendan Zettler – *Teeswater*
- **Nova Scotia:** Ellen Crane – *Truro*.

After final selection, CYL candidates will be paired with a mentor for a nine month mentorship in their area of interest. In the past, the program has seen a wide range of focus areas. These range from production focusses such as extended grazing seasons, nutrition and embryo work to marketing and trade to industry policy to advocacy. The mentors are handpicked to best suit each individual CYL and set them up for a very successful and productive year. CYLs gain knowledge in their area of interest, exposure to the CCA and its provincial members, an expanded network and personal growth.

The CYL program is a national youth initiative of the Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA). It provides industry-specific training and mentorship opportunities to young producers. CYL participants have the opportunity to explore a potential career choice or involvement with a provincial/national producer organization, while gaining the expertise and business acumen necessary to sustain the cattle industry into the future. Visit www.cattlemensyoungleaders.com for more information.

For further information, contact:

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The CCA is the national voice for Canada's beef cattle industry representing 68,500 beef farms and feedlots.

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