



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Applications Open for APAS Young Leaders Program**

*Developing the next generation of agricultural leaders through policy, advocacy, and governance experience.*

**REGINA, SK** – The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) is now accepting applications for its 2026–27 Young Leaders (AYL) Program, providing young producers with a unique opportunity to build leadership skills and gain firsthand experience in agricultural policy and advocacy.

Open to Saskatchewan producers between the ages of 18 and 40, the AYL program is designed to develop the next generation of leaders in agriculture by connecting participants directly with the policy-making process at the provincial and national levels.

“This program is about more than leadership training—it’s about ensuring the next generation of producers has a strong voice in shaping the future of agriculture,” said APAS President Bill Prybylski.

Participants in the AYL program gain practical experience through:

- Grassroots policy development and advocacy
- Participation in APAS board, district, and policy meetings
- Engagement with government officials and decision-makers
- Attendance at key events, including the APAS AGM and Canadian Federation of Agriculture AGM
- Governance training and professional development

The program runs from October 2026 through September 2027 and requires a commitment of approximately 16 days over the course of the year. Travel and program-related expenses for successful applicants are fully covered.

“Understanding how policy decisions are made—and how to influence them—is critical for the long-term success of agriculture,” Prybylski said. “The AYL program gives young producers the tools and confidence to step into leadership roles in their communities and across the sector.”

Since its launch in 2014, the program has helped build a network of informed, engaged agricultural leaders across Saskatchewan.

Emiley Saunders, a recent participant, emphasized the broader value of the program:

“Through the APAS Young Leaders program, we experienced activities that build governance, advocacy, and leadership skills that translate beyond agriculture and into our communities.”

Applications for the 2026–27 AYL program are open until August 31, 2026. More information and the application form are available at: [apas.ca/ayl](https://apas.ca/ayl)

For more information, please contact: APAS Communications  
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