

The future of agriculture in Saskatchewan is one that is bright and full of opportunity. With growth continuously occurring in agriculture, there are many changes that will occur in the next ten to fifteen years. There are three large changes that will likely occur – an increase in the number of jobs available in agriculture, an increase in knowledge those in agriculture possess and an increase in the size of existing agriculture operations with larger production.

The demand for workers in agriculture will continue to rise in the next ten to fifteen years. These workers will be both directly and indirectly related to agriculture. As agriculture expands in Saskatchewan, more skilled and experienced labourers will be necessary to operate large machinery and handle livestock in the day to day requirements of agriculture operations. Jobs will also be available in indirect positions, such as financial advisors with banking institutions and accountants who track income and expenses of these operations. These positions will all be an essential part of agriculture in Saskatchewan. Due to the increasing number of positions in agriculture, both direct and indirect, the demand for workers in agriculture will continue to rise in the next ten to fifteen years.

To make agriculture operations more efficient, profitable and sustainable, education will be a valuable asset. A growing number of young producers are already attending university, college or other educational institutions before returning to the farm. As a result, more research and more educators will be required to fulfill this demand for education. Education can currently be received in a vast number of areas, including farm management, financial planning, machinery repair, crop production and livestock production. With more educated producers, an increase in the efficiency, profitability and sustainability of agriculture operations will result.

The size of existing agriculture operations will increase in the next ten to fifteen years as Canada continues to be a producer of much of the world's food. As the world population

continues to rise at a rapid rate, the demand for food is also on the rise. Saskatchewan's agriculture operations will expand to meet this increased demand for food. With this larger size of agriculture operations, machinery costs will become more efficient on a per unit basis. This cost saving will aid agriculture operations to be more profitable and sustainable. As the demand for food rises on a world scale, the size of agriculture operations will also increase.

As agriculture grows in Saskatchewan, the numbers of jobs available, the amount of education producers have and the size of agriculture operations will all increase as a result. These are all important aspects in increasing the efficiency, profitability and sustainability of agriculture operations. Agriculture in Saskatchewan has a future which is bright and full of opportunity.