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Meals From the Farm: making the connection between food and farming

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Making the connection between food and farming



Meals From the Farm returns to Saskatchewan on June 1 this year.

This joint initiative between Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan and Agriculture in the Classroom Saskatchewan works with six Saskatchewan schools to help students and teachers learn about how local farmers grow many of the foods that they eat in their lunch.

Schools in Prince Albert, Regina, Yorkton, Lloydminster and Saskatoon will receive a hot egg and bacon sandwich on a wheat English muffin, along with a carton of milk, an oat bar, beef jerky, and a lentil snack. As well, Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan is providing each student and teacher with a Meals From the Farm bag that includes snacks, activities, pencils, recipes and seeds for the garden.

"We love this program for so many reasons," says Clinton Monchuk, Executive Director of Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan, which is spearheading the initiative. "First of all, it helps feed kids. It also provides a day for students and teachers to think about how the foods we eat are produced by farmers. We also work with our partners at Ag in the Classroom, several schools and so many farmer groups from across the province."

In addition to lunch, there are several other activities happening at the Meals From the Farm partner schools. In the morning, there will be an online tour of a chicken barn and live Q&A with a chicken farmer. The afternoon will feature a gameshow event at Mayfair Community School in

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Saskatoon. Farm & Food Care has prepared an online agriculture trivia contest to engage students and offer a chance to win prizes for their classroom. Many teachers will also be focusing on agriculture related activities in their classrooms, such as scavenger hunts, planting seeds, and going on tours from FarmFood360.

"We continually seek unique learning opportunities for our students," says Danielle Tooley, Principal of Mayfair Community School in Saskatoon. "<u>Meals From the Farm</u> is a fantastic day to help our students make connections between the foods that they eat and how it is grown."

"We want to inspire students to care about food and the people involved in producing it," says Sara Shymko, Executive Director of Agriculture in the Classroom. "This program provides an engaging learning experience for students to discover their personal connection to agriculture through food."

Led by Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan and presented by the Saskatchewan Egg Producers and Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan, Meals From the Farm is a collaboration with Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association, Cargill, Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission, SaskOats, Grain Millers, SaskMilk, SaskPork, Saskatchewan Pulse Growers, Canola Eat Well and Agriculture in the Classroom Saskatchewan.

To join in with the online virtual tour of the chicken barn and live Q&A, please click here: <u>https://youtu.be/7I5RE5MdS48</u>

If you have questions, please contact:

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#mealsfromthefarm

#celebrateag

Backgrounder

Today, less than 3% of Canadians have a direct connection to the farm, which is one reason why so many have questions about how their food is produced. Farm & Food Care works to address consumer questions and inspire more confidence in our farmers and in Saskatchewan-grown foods. To learn more, follow us @FarmFoodCareSK on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter or visit <u>farmfoodcaresk.org</u>. Or let us put you in touch with a farmer so you can ask them directly about the food on your table.

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