



Message from the Chair

As we close out 2025, I'm proud to reflect on a year that showcased the strength, adaptability, and unity of Alberta's cattle feeding sector. While challenges continue to test our industry, including ongoing trade and regulatory pressures, ACFA has remained steadfast in ensuring the voice of cattle feeders is heard and respected.

This year saw continued collaboration with government and industry partners on key policy files, including trade, transportation, environmental approvals, and risk management. ACFA remained active on issues that directly impact feedlot operations, advocating for practical solutions that strengthen our competitiveness and sustainability.

Our events once again brought the industry together, highlighted by the Alberta Beef Industry Conference, which continues to grow in profile and impact. The Taste of Alberta banquet and auction raised over \$200,000 for the Southern Alberta Cardiac Centre of Excellence. The MLA Dinner in Edmonton drew another impressive crowd of Ministers, MLAs, and senior officials, as well as Premier Smith, reinforcing the strong relationships ACFA has built with policymakers.

This year we launched our community engagement project, which is aimed at strengthening engagement and collaboration around feedlots in rural Alberta. "Feedlots... Feed lots!" was proudly featured at local events, parades and rodeos and we have had some great feedback. Thanks to the members that have used the slogan in their own marketing. This initiative will continue through 2026.

Looking ahead, I'm confident that ACFA is well-positioned to build on momentum. With a clear strategic focus, strong industry partnerships, and an engaged membership, we're ready to continue tackling the issues that matter most to Alberta's cattle feeders.

Keith Gregory, Board Chair



2024/
2025 **YEAR IN
REVIEW**

THE VOICE OF ALBERTA
CATTLE FEEDERS



Strategic Result Areas

ACFA works for our voluntary members to meet the needs of the province's cattle feeding industry through:



MEMBER VALUE

Serving ACFA membership by delivering value to members, producers and industry alike.



ADVOCACY

Influencing public policy and the regulatory regime to enhance the competitiveness of the cattle feeding sector in Alberta.



PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATION

Collaborating and partnering with stakeholders to strengthen the Alberta and Canadian beef industry.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engaging with community members to build strong, vibrant, and sustainable communities proud of Alberta's fed cattle industry.

Advocacy

PROVINCIAL

Locally, ACFA works to develop and maintain relationships with government so we can actively participate in consultations, meetings, and elevate awareness of cattle feeder issues, perspectives, barriers to competitiveness and contributions to the economy.

For how the National Cattle Feeders' Association worked for you federally, please visit nationalcattlefeeders.ca.



2025 LOBBY DAY IN OTTAWA

NCFA directors and staff had

45+ meetings with MPs,

Senators and political staff to discuss and bring awareness to issues facing Canadian cattle feeders.



Member Value

COMMUNICATIONS

ACFA continues a comprehensive communications and outreach program working to engage not only cattle feeder members, but industry stakeholders, government, media and consumers.

- Maintained media relations to ensure cattle feeder issues were recognized publicly through **10+** TV and radio interviews and print articles.
- Increased social media awareness – In the last year, gained **473** new social media followers, **199,775** social media impressions and **5,109** social media engagements, across 3 platforms.
- Kept members informed of issues, changes and news through **monthly** member newsletters and **7 Ringside** newsletters.
- Supported members in **educational** outreach, providing key resources for public feedlot tours and the Calgary Stampede Cattle Trail.
- ACFA staff sat on panels at workshops and conferences providing **cattle feeder perspective** on industry topics.
- ACFA staff and directors serve on more than **30** boards and committees, ensuring a **strong and consistent voice** for Alberta's cattle feeders across the industry.



LABOUR & IMMIGRATION

A rapidly changing labour and immigration landscape has led to significant cuts. ACFA keeps members informed of policy changes while advocating for efficient, timely pathways to secure TFWs and the ability to transition them to permanent residency.



SUMMER FEEDLOT TOURS

ACFA tours hosting:

5 MPs

4 Ministers

3 MLAs

Tours included federal, provincial and municipal government, as well as US delegations. ACFA used these opportunities to bring awareness about the cattle feeding industry in Alberta and to promote the "Feedlots... Feed lots!" campaign.

ACFA COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ACFA launched a community engagement initiative that aims to inform, engage, and positively influence perceptions about feedlots in rural communities. We have seen success in social media engagement and at local events. Thank you to members that have participated in the "Feedlots... Feed lots!" campaign. Together we can continue to build and strengthen relationships with rural Albertans.

FEEDLOTS... Feed lots!

2025 AGM

ACFA's Annual General Meeting was held March 5, 2025 in Calgary. We had one new director elected, Leighton Kolk. Keith Gregory, Evan Hegedys, Lyle Adams, and Chad Meunier were re-elected. Thank you to outgoing director Bob de Boer for his dedication to ACFA. Minister Sigurdson addressed the attendees and stressed the importance of agriculture to Alberta and Canada amid US tariff threats.

EVENTS



GOLF TOURNAMENT

This year's tournament was again a success and a fun day for ACFA members. Congratulations to defending champions Park Road Farms for winning the

Cattle Feeder Cup.

New this year was the "Steak your Shot Shootout" where players had the chance to make an ace for \$250,000. Though no one managed to make an ace, it generated a lot of excitement at the end of the tournament.



ALBERTA BEEF INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

The conference was held in Calgary and the event was once again sold out. Some of the speakers included John Sitilides, David Allison, hypnotist Wayne Lee and Jeremiah Brown.



\$232,270 was donated to the Bringing Hearts Home campaign, in support of the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation and the Southern Alberta Cardiac Centre of Excellence.



2024 MLA DINNER

11 Ministers

24 MLAs

12 government staff

Premier Danielle Smith and Minister RJ Sigurdson welcomed guests and talked about the importance of agriculture and the cattle industry to the province.



COLLABORATION

ACFA strengthened its partnerships with industry organizations such as ABP and collaborated on **10+** provincial government submissions and letters, addressing issues such as tariffs and the implications for Alberta trade and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from fed cattle. These efforts helped unify the voice of the cattle industry. NCFA advocates federally on behalf of ACFA in a multitude of policy positions.



BIODIGESTER APPROVALS

Through persistent advocacy by ACFA, significant progress has been made on biodigester permitting. Several feedlot-based biodigester projects are now being fast-tracked through the approval process which is an important milestone for advancing innovation and sustainability in the sector.

Recent updates to AOPA definitions, championed through ACFA's engagement with regulators, now allow "organic materials" to be managed similarly to manure and compost. This change enables feedlots to include digestate from biodigesters under their existing NRCB approvals, removing a key barrier to adoption.

Another outcome of ACFA's ongoing collaboration with industry and government is the Alberta government's commitment to a multi-jurisdictional review to further streamline and modernize the permitting process for biodigester development.



RESEARCH PROJECTS

\$72,000 invested in research projects like Alberta Living Labs, BCRC, Western Crop Innovations, Beef Inspector training, and Histophilus Somni Vaccine. Research projects managed by ACFA include AMU/AMR.



AGRI-STABILITY CAP

ACFA led the way in advocating for an increase in the Agri-stability cap. We were pleased that the provincial and federal governments doubled the payment cap from \$3 million to \$6 million for the 2025 program year. Though this increase is appreciated, it is still not enough to protect the industry from the increased levels of risk and ACFA continues to advocate for better BRM programs for cattle feeders.

The ACFA Team

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