



New Program Officer Joins Investment Agriculture Foundation

Victoria, B.C. – July 3, 2008 The Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. (IAF) is pleased to announce the appointment of Sarah Ewanyshyn to the position of program officer, with primary responsibility for the portfolio of initiatives under the Foundation's Agri-Food Futures Fund (AFFF) program.

Ewanyshyn holds bachelor degrees in education and arts from the University of British Columbia. Her professional background is in the health and education systems, having worked with the Vancouver Island Health Authority as a claims advisor, as a research assistant with the B.C. Teachers' Federation, and as a high school English teacher.

The AFFF program for which Ewanyshyn will be responsible aims to strengthen agri-food organizations and secure their future by accelerating the pace of innovation across the sector, facilitating adoption of new technology, developing new market opportunities, and promoting a strategic approach in all sector initiatives. Ewanyshyn will provide first-level support to AFFF initiatives, developing annual work plans, liaising with program and initiative chairs, and promoting the AFFF program and initiatives.

IAF Executive Director Peter Donkers says that as the Foundation's AFFF lead, Ewanyshyn will play a key role with client organizations. "Sarah will work with the broad portfolio of initiatives to promote awareness of funding opportunities, to develop partnerships with the agri-food industry with an emphasis on emerging sectors, and to assist clients in the development of successful project applications," says Donkers. "She'll also co-ordinate the work of the advisory or adjudication committees, completing due diligence activities, and implementing appropriate monitoring and evaluation."

Ewanyshyn assumed her new role on June 30th, taking over from AFFF administrator Jessica Ng, who is returning to school to pursue further studies. She can be reached at the Victoria IAF office at (250) 356-1839, or by e-mail at Sarah.Ewanyshyn@gov.bc.ca.

The Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. is a not-for-profit organization that manages and distributes federal and provincial funds in support of innovative projects to benefit B.C.'s agriculture and agri-food industries. To learn more about the IAF and the funding programs it administers, visit www.iafbc.com.

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