



Visions 2018 Conference Program
July 4th - 5th, 2018
Faculty Club - University of Alberta - Edmonton - AB

Wednesday, July 4th

- 6:30 pm **Registration**
Harriet Winspear Dinning Room
- 7:00 pm **Opening Remarks** - AAEA Acting President Catalina Solano and Program Chair Mike Vorona
- 7:15 pm **Jean-Philippe Gervais** - Chief Economist, Farm Credit Canada
Keynote Address: *Rising farm debt, trade spats, excess supply, is the outlook for agriculture still positive?*
- 8:00 pm **Agri-food Economics Research Posters Competition**
Graduate students from University of Alberta and University of Saskatchewan

Thursday, July 5th

- 8:00 am **Registration and Breakfast**
Harriet Winspear Dinning Room
- 8:30 am **Opening Remarks** – AAEA Acting President Catalina Solano and Program Chair Mike Vorona

Session One – Agri-food Superclusters

Chairs: Jerry Bouma and Mike Vorona

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- 8:40 am **Jerry Bouma** – Toma & Bouma Management Consultants
Agri-food value chains in Canada: History of development
- 9:00 am **Sandra Marocco** - Board member of Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta, PIS representative for Northern Alberta
New Protein Industries Supercluster (PIS)
- 9:30 am **Natalia Gordiichuk** – Founder of Ukrainian Food Valley and Agritema LLC
Ukrainian Food Valley
- 10:00 am Speakers will be joined by other PIS members, **Nata Maevska**, Founder of the horseradish cluster and **David Ghoris**, Calgary Economic Development.
Panel discussion on agri-food superclusters, including other European organizations.
Discussion of North American superclusters history, the NL original cluster and industry cluster in Black Sea region.
- 10:30 am **Networking break**



Session Two – Grain Transportation Challenges

Chair: Dawn Trautman

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- 10:45 am **Bruce McFadden** - Quorum Corporation
The current status of grain handling and transportation system
- 11:00 am **Derek Brewin** - University of Manitoba
Rail technology, natural monopolies and regulations
- 11:10 am **Geoff Backman** - Alberta Wheat Commission
The events that led to regulatory changes
- 11:25 am **Ellen Taylor** - Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
The nature of the regulatory changes (i.e. Provisions of Bill C49)
- 11:40 am **Mohammad Torshizi** - University of Alberta
Implications of the new Bill and investments in capacity expansion for the future of the industry
- 11:50 am **Q&A**
- 12:15 pm **Lunch**

Session Three - Trade

Chair: Catalina Solano

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- 1:00 pm **Marija Pavleska** - China Institute, University of Alberta
Trade update and implications for Canadian agriculture
- 1:30 pm **Aarij Bashir** - Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Canada-Ukraine free trade agreement
- 1:45 pm **Kate Zverieva** - Food Agriculture Organization (FAO), Entrepreneur
Canada-Ukraine free trade agreement
- 2:00 pm **Lori Thorlakson** - European Union Centre of Excellence
Canadian trade with European Union
- 2:15 pm **Anna Gustova** - Myronivsky Hliboproduct
Ukrainian trade with European Union and the Pacific Rim
- 2:30 pm **Panel discussion** on trade negotiations and agri-food export market diversification.
Trade wars with powerful neighbors; NAFTA, the Ukrainian food industry experience reallocating export flows to Russia.
- 3:00 pm Networking Break

Session Four – Ag Census and Financial Updates

Chair: Feng Qiu

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- 3:15 pm **Ellen Bekkering** - Statistics Canada
Census of agriculture 2016 results: Analysis and survey design
- 4:00 pm **Mike Vorona** - Serecon
Summary of the previous evening presentation and update on agri-food equities risk profile evolution over the bull cycle
- 4:30 pm Announcement of poster competition winners
- 4:45 pm **Closing Remarks** - AAFA Acting President Catalina Solano and Program Chair Mike Vorona