



Farmers Invited to View Video of 9th Annual Chops & Crops Collaboration

February 4, 2021 – Nine Alberta commodity groups continued to collaborate on the Chops & Crops event during the pandemic by hosting the Agriculture Minister for a ninth year - albeit virtually.

“It all goes without saying that the event looks a lot different than it has in previous years,” said Todd Hames, Chair of the Alberta Wheat Commission, who delivered opening remarks at the virtual event with the theme of *Feeding Albertans*. “Typically, we welcome a larger group of colleagues, government officials and industry stakeholders in an evening of celebration in which we showcase the finest foods and drinks produced right here in Alberta. But this year has taught us all the art of adapting.”

The benefit of a virtual event is that the discussion with Agriculture and Forestry Minister Devin Dreesen was recorded and shared with more producers. The recording is available [here](#) and a transcript can be viewed [here](#). The chairs of the host commodity groups asked the Minister questions on topics such as trade barriers, research, water quality and security, business risk management, value-added processing, rural infrastructure, federal carbon tax and offsets, and more.

The annual Chops & Crops event is a testament to the power of collaboration among the agricultural commodity groups, as well as an asset in maintaining communication with the provincial government.

“I want to thank Minister Dreesen and my fellow colleagues for being here tonight,” Hames told the group gathered virtually on Nov. 23. “We look forward to a productive conversation towards building a collaboration and addressing the needs of a competitive, financially stable agricultural sector as a means to contribute to Alberta’s economy, recovery plan and carry our farmers into the next generation.”

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