



Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation

1027 Pembroke Street East, Suite 200

Pembroke, ON K8A 3M4

Tel: (613) 732-7068 Fax: (613) 732-3386

Email: elizabeth@theprofessionaledge.com W: <http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation.cfm>

Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship Benefits Post-Grads in Soil Science

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 23, 2008 – Pembroke, ON

The Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship supports post-graduate students studying soil science and is made possible through his generous gift to the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation (AICF). The AICF is pleased to announce that Margaret Caldecott and Ryan Hangs were selected as the 2008 recipients of the Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship.

Margaret Caldecott is currently studying at the University of Guelph. She is looking at the influence of management practices, such as manure and fertilizer rates on soil phosphorus forms, in addition to the affects of tillage practices on phosphorus lost in water. Considering agriculture has been identified as a non-point source of water pollution, these studies will allow for more environmentally friendly farming practices, which can lead to a healthier agricultural future. Once Ms. Caldecott has completed her thesis, she hopes to find employment within a local conservation authority or with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in the areas of source water protection, soil management or rural planning.

Ryan Hangs is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Saskatchewan. His research will help to fill the current knowledge gap regarding cultivating short-rotation intensive culture willow plantations for use as a bioenergy feedstock. Positive, measurable outcomes are anticipated for agricultural diversification, given the renewable energy industry desiring reliable biomass feedstock alternatives, and strategy development for Canada's Kyoto commitments. Ryan has always esteemed applied research and is passionate about studying the critical role of maintaining soil quality for promoting the sustainable stewardship of our planet.

Dr. Karl C. Ivarson worked as a soil scientist with the Soil Research Institute, Soil Biochemistry Section. In 1978 he was transferred to the Chemistry and Biology Research Institute where he probed and resolved many problems of the effect of microbial activity on mineral transformations in soils. Dr. Ivarson is now retired and resides in Calgary. He remains keenly interested in agriculture and especially developments in soils and farmland sustainability.

The deadline for applications for the 2009 Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarships is November 6, 2009. Application forms and scholarship guidelines for this and other scholarships administered by the AIC Foundation are posted on the AICF website http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation_initiatives.cfm.

-30-

For information contact:
Elizabeth Muckle Jeffs
Manager, Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation
T: 613-732-3386 E: Elizabeth@theprofessionaledge.com