

## AI & Robotics in Agri-Food



## Key indicators Agriculture

- 66.3% of farms reported using technology
  - 56.2% using computers or laptops;
  - 42.9% using smartphones or tablets;
  - 30.1% using GPS technology;
  - 20.5% using automated steering.
- Larger farms more likely to use technology.
- Compared to other countries, Canada has low rates of technology adoption

## Key indicators Food

- \$500 million worth of robots to be sold per year by 2025
- Most large fast-food chains to have adopted artificial intelligence systems by 2022.
- AI is estimated to enable us to cut food waste, unlocking \$127 billion by 2030...

## Key indicators Food



The future is served...

## AI & Robotics in Agri-Food



- Fantastic potential...
- Rapidly evolving
- Multiple sectors involved (academia, NGOs, governments, producers, entrepreneurs)
- Requires support – financial, policies, knowledge dissemination, training



## What needs to be done? (1/2)

- Improve policies:
  - Forward-looking policies to provide a framework that will satisfy users and consumers of new technologies;
  - Measures to support adoption of new technologies in agri-food (taxation, funding, etc.);
  - Look at "upskilling" and training – for the existing and coming workforce.

## What needs to be done? (2/2)

- Knowledge dissemination:
  - Explain it to users
  - Explain it to consumers (public trust)
- Proactive knowledge dissemination will prevent us facing other issues.

## Policy making

Develop recommendations (December – March);

- Review discussions during this Conference
- Further research;
- Consultations.

Release recommendations (April 2020);

Advocate for the implementation of our  
recommendations (April 2020+);



## Other AIC priorities:

### Five key priorities:

- Effective funding;
- Collaboration & partnerships;
- Public trust;
- Favourable climate for investments;
- Equality, equity and inclusiveness.

## Report on Protein Industry Market

Report on Protein Industry Market – Global and  
Canadian Analysis

“Sustainable Food Research & Technology” part of  
NRC’s website

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# What is AIC?

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The Agri-Food Innovation Council is a not for profit organization founded in 1920 and incorporated federally.

AIC is a unifying voice for cross-sectorial agricultural research and innovation in Canada.

Corporate membership \$1,000 (NGOs, businesses, etc.).

# AIC's mission and mandate

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Mission: For the Agri-Food Innovation Council to be a unifying voice for agricultural research and innovation.

AIC's mandate consists of key actions related to agricultural research and innovation:

- Influencing public policy;
- Disseminating information;
- Promoting careers in agricultural research and innovation;
- Facilitating networking;
- Being the key partner in Canada for international activities.