



Meet Manitoba Crop Alliance's 2023-24 high school bursary recipients



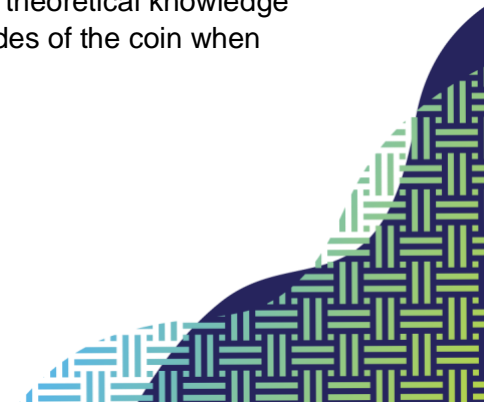
Alara Krahn (Mather, MB)

Alara Krahn grew up on a farm outside of Mather with approximately 2,300 acres devoted to grain. Her interest in farming sparked at a young age when she took up the responsibility of sweeping sheds and bins, cleaning cabs, painting equipment, picking rocks and other tasks. As Alara grew older, her responsibilities increased, and she learned how to operate a grain cart when she was 15 and drive a combine when she was 16. Working in the hot and itchy cabs is where Alara found her passion for farming. In the fall of 2024, she will begin her studies at the University of Manitoba to obtain a bachelor's degree in science (agriculture) in agronomy. In the future, Alara hopes to discover new and innovative ways to farm that are both sustainable and financially viable. Knowing that her contributions can have a positive impact on the environment and farmers across Manitoba motivates her to join the agriculture industry.



Laura Delichte (St. Alphonse, MB)

Laura grew up on a mixed farm in St. Alphonse and is a sixth-generation farmer. Growing up, she always enjoyed going on crop tours with her family or riding shotgun in the grain truck with her grandma. She participated in the Central Dairy 4-H Club for four years showing cattle. As she has gotten older, Laura has taken on more roles on her family's farm and has learned what it truly takes to run a small operation. Laura's interest in the financial side of agriculture began when her parents embarked on barn renovations. She will be attending the University of Manitoba agriculture diploma program in the fall, with plans to eventually extend her education with an agribusiness degree. She hopes that the practical knowledge from the diploma and the theoretical knowledge from the degree will enable her to see both sides of the coin when working with farmers and their finances.





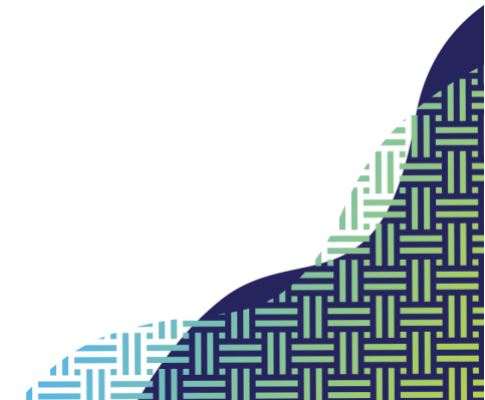
Riley Jorgensen (Cromer, MB)

Riley has been involved with his family's farm just north of Cromer his whole life, driving the combine and the grain cart, and giving rides out to and around the field with an ATV for as long as he can remember. From seeding to harvesting, he tries to help year-round. He will begin attending Olds College in Alberta for its agricultural management program this fall. Riley hopes the program will provide him with insight on the more technical side of the industry, including nutrients and their values, markets and finances. This information is vital for maintaining proper and sustainable practices to move forward into the future of agriculture, and Riley believes his education will help him put practices like proper tillage techniques, soil sampling and proper chemical application into action.



Madisyn Robertson (Neepawa, MB)

Madisyn Robertson is the fifth generation on her family farm near Neepawa. They crop around 3,400 acres and raise 175 commercial cow/calf pairs. Madisyn started helping as soon as she could, opening gates, pail feeding, bottle feeding, cleaning bins, running parts, fixing fences and baling. She has been extremely involved in the 4-H beef program, Manitoba Youth Beef Roundup, Manitoba Ag-Ex, Royal Manitoba Winter Fair and Canadian Western Agribition showing cattle. After completing high school, there was no other industry that Madisyn wanted to be involved in but agriculture. She will attend the University of Saskatchewan this fall to pursue a degree in animal science, but she also has a strong passion for plant sciences. She looks forward to learning more about maximizing beef production utilizing crop byproducts, marginal land and less water. Upon completion of her degree, Madisyn eventually wishes to make her way back to the family farm.





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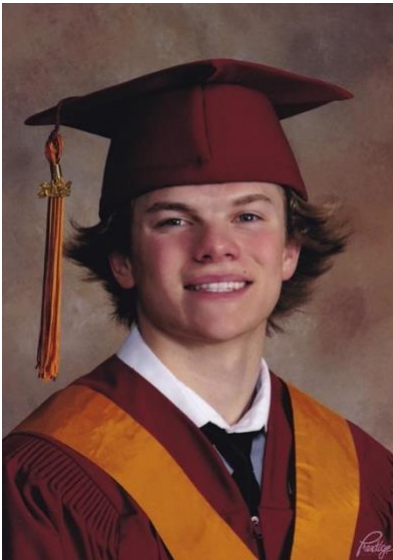
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Zenith Vanstone (Miami, MB)

Zenith Vanstone grew up on a fourth-generation farm in the Rosebank/Miami area that focuses on growing cereals and oilseeds, as well as forage seed production. From a young age, Zenith has been heavily involved in the farm's production of alfalfa seed, particularly the leafcutter bee operation. This involvement has further piqued Zenith's interest in regenerative agriculture and ecosystem interactions. The next stage of her ag journey will be attending Olds College in Alberta, where she will be taking an agricultural management diploma, with intentions to continue to an agribusiness degree.



Evan Whetter (Alexander, MB)

Evan Whetter grew up near Alexander and fell in love with farming at a young age by spending so much time at his family grain and seed farm in Hartney. Evan has worked on the farm for many years, running, maintaining and fixing equipment, as well as learning the ways of running a farm. Spending so much time at the farm helped Evan grow as a person and helped develop his dream of becoming a successful farmer in the future. In the fall, Evan will be attending the University of Manitoba for a diploma of agriculture. He is excited to learn new systems and ideas that he can bring back to the farm. Evan plans to put these new ideas to work when he eventually takes over the farm in years to come.

