



Saskatchewan's bioscience community celebrates 2015 National Biotechnology Week

Hardier crops, eco-friendly products and cleaning up the environment: Saskatchewan is celebrating the innovation and creativity of our bioscience researchers and entrepreneurs during National Biotechnology Week. The Government of Saskatchewan and cities of Saskatoon and Regina have proclaimed October 30th to November 6th as Biotech Week.

Ag-West Bio Inc. coordinates Biotech Week activities in Saskatchewan, with a committee drawn from Saskatchewan's bioscience organizations.

Wilf Keller, Ag-West Bio President and CEO, says "It is important for the public to appreciate the role of biotechnology in our lives. Biotechnology has had a positive impact on agriculture, environment and health sectors. The events organized in Saskatchewan during Biotech Week create fun opportunities to learn more, and celebrate science in Saskatchewan."

Saskatchewan activities include industry and outreach events in Saskatoon and Regina: A public lecture on agricultural biotechnology; a scavenger hunt for high school and post-secondary students; a dance where middle-years students can learn about vaccines; a trivia night focused on bioscience; and two science cafés. Mayor Donald Atchison will address the guests at an industry networking event called Biotech & Beer, at Boffin's Public House in Saskatoon. A full listing of Saskatchewan events can be found below.

For details, please visit the event website:

http://www.agwest.sk.ca/national_biotech_week_2015_saskatchewan_events.html

Contact:

Jackie Robin
Communications Director
Ag-West Bio
306-668-2656
Jackie.robin@agwest.sk.ca

About Ag-West Bio:

Ag-West Bio is a membership-based organization located at Innovation Place in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The company works as a catalyst for developing partnerships and industry growth in the bio-economy through investments, aiding strategic alliances, and providing business planning support, regulatory advice and communications. Funding for Ag-West Bio is provided by Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and Growing Forward, and Western Economic Diversification Canada. www.agwest.sk.ca

Quick biotechnology facts:

- Biotechnology is "the use of biological processes, organisms, or systems to manufacture products intended to improve the quality of human life."
- Saskatchewan hosts much of Canada's agricultural biotechnology activity, with many other areas developing, such as genomics, plant-made pharmaceuticals and diagnostics.
- Modern biotechnology provides breakthrough products and technologies to combat debilitating and rare diseases, reduce our environmental footprint, and help secure a sustainable food supply, natural resource management, providing cleaner energy and more efficient industrial manufacturing processes.

www.imagenation.ca

Biotech Week activities in Saskatchewan:

Tuesday, Oct.27 7:30 pm	Science Café Don't treat soil like dirt!!	Winston's Pub, Saskatoon	Public event Speaker: Barbara Cade-Menun (AAFC)
Saturday, Oct. 30 & Sunday Nov. 1 2:00 pm	DNA Weekend	Saskatchewan Science Centre, Regina	Family fun: Extract DNA from strawberries!
Monday, Nov. 2 1:30 pm	Amazing Biotech Race	Innovation Place, Saskatoon	High school and secondary students Speaker: Jeremy Lang
Tuesday, Nov. 3 8:00 pm	Trivia Night	Vangellis Tavern, Saskatoon	Public event Trivia master: Mark Ferguson (CLS)
Tuesday, Nov. 3 7:00 pm	Science Café Agricultural Biotechnology: Science and Benefits	Saskatchewan Science Centre, Regina	Public event Speaker: Abdul Jalil, (Ministry of Agriculture)
Wednesday, Nov. 4 7:00 pm	Know GMO: An uplifting discussion about food	Neatby Timlin Theatre, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon	Public event Speaker: Robert Saik (Agri-Trend)
Thursday, Nov. 5 4:00 – 7:00 pm	Biotech and Beer Biotechnology and the Environment	Innovation Place, Saskatoon	Speakers: Mayor Don Atchison Monique Haakensen (Contango Strategies) Phil Stephan (Sask Research Council) Meghna Malik (Metabolix Oilseeds)
Nov. 3, 4, 5	Walking Dead Dances	Saskatchewan schools	Vaccines and prevention of infectious diseases

Come celebrate - it's in our DNA

National Biotech Week



October 30 - November 6, 2015

imagenation.ca