



Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month events help students make connections through hands-on learning!

Monday, March 2, 2026- Students in schools across Canada will participate in annual Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month (CALM) events hosted by Agriculture in the Classroom-Canada (AITC-Canada) for the entire month of March.

CALM is a hands-on program that encourages children to learn about and celebrate agriculture. Agriculture in the Classroom Newfoundland and Labrador (AITC-NL) will deliver this program in Kindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms across the province, sharing stories of farmers and agriculture professionals through presentations, classroom visits, virtual farm tours, and through other resources and activities. Topics raised during CALM ignite discussion about food security, safety, and production.

This year, AITC-NL will be sharing their newest storybook, “Hay! Have You Herd?”, a story that focuses on animal health, biosecurity on farms, and livestock.

“Hay, Have You Herd?” follows Abby as she spends the day career shadowing a livestock veterinarian. As they visit farms and care for animals like cows, sheep, and chickens, Abby learns how veterinarians help farmers to keep the animals healthy and comfortable. Along the way, she discovers how veterinary care helps ensure that the food we eat—from milk and eggs to meat—is safe and nutritious.

Throughout the month of March, AITC-NL is partnering with the Newfoundland and Labrador Beekeeping Association (NLBKA) to host the “Bee Creative Literacy Contest” for Kindergarten to Grade 6 students. Classes can submit up to three of their top literary works that combine students’ literacy talent with their knowledge of agriculture in Newfoundland and Labrador. The winning classes get to decorate a beehive any way they choose. The beehive will be returned to the participating beekeeper’s farm to be taken care of in the name of the school/class.

All contest entries can be submitted by tagging on Facebook: @Agriculture in the Classroom NL and @NL Beekeeping Association and #CALM2026 or emailing to: chelsea@nlfa.ca. All entries must be submitted by Friday, April 3, 2026. The winners will be announced Tuesday, April 7, 2026.

Details about CALM events are available at: www.aitcnl.ca or on social media: Facebook: Agriculture in the Classroom NL; Instagram: @aitcnl

“Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month aims to spark curiosity among young people in Newfoundland and Labrador about where their food comes from and how it’s grown. By



connecting youth with local farmers and rural communities, this initiative highlights the vital role agriculture plays in our daily lives and inspires the next generation to consider a future in this important and rewarding industry.”

The Honourable Heath MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

“Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month is a great opportunity for young people to learn about our province’s agriculture sector and the people who produce food here at home. We all share a goal to grow more of what we eat and eat more of what we grow here in Newfoundland and Labrador. Thanks to Agriculture in the Classroom for helping our youth learn about this important work.”

The Honourable Pleaman Forsey, Minister of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands

“On behalf of the NL Federation of Agriculture’s Board of Directors, I would like to congratulate AITC-NL on another exciting year of Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month. It so important to keep a connection between students and the food producers who work hard to put high-quality food on our kitchen tables every day. AITC-NL offers different activities and resources that are aimed at helping students learn about, connect to, and celebrate the local agriculture industry!”

Wayne Simmons, NL Federation of Agriculture President

AITC-NL is funded through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), a 5-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by the federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen the competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of Canada’s agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities, and a \$2.5-billion commitment that is funded 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories. Newfoundland and Labrador's farmers and producers have access to more than \$42 million in cost-shared Sustainable CAP funding. Sustainable CAP provides \$330,000 annually to support Agriculture in the Classroom activities in Newfoundland and Labrador.

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