



For Immediate Release

## **Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month continues to bring innovative learning experiences to students through agri-food connections**

Tuesday, March 1, 2022- Agriculture in the Classroom NL (AITC-NL) celebrates the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month.

Agriculture in the Classroom-Canada (AITC-Canada), representing 10 provincial Agriculture in the Classroom organizations, will participate in annual Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month (CALM) events in schools across the nation for the entire month of March.

CALM is a hands-on program that encourages children to learn about and celebrate agriculture in various ways, including reading books about agriculture and watching virtual farm tours and agriculture videos. The theme for CALM is “Our Food, Our Story.” Agriculture in the Classroom Newfoundland and Labrador will deliver this program in Kindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms across Newfoundland and Labrador in a month-long virtual event. AITC-NL will be sharing the stories of farmers and agriculture professionals with online presentations, virtual farm tours and other resources. An important element of this event is the connection between students, local farmers and agriculture industry representatives and AITC-NL strives to continue to make that connection.

AITC-NL launched a new storybook, “Plant, Grow, Eat, Share.” Follow Abby and Fabian as they plant and care for their indoor classroom garden. Not only do they work together to grow Tiny Tim Tomatoes, but they grow a friendship and an appreciation for growing their own food. Along with a new storybook, AITC-NL will have audio storybooks available on the website and online resources available for teachers and students.

“Over the last 11 years, CALM has become a staple learning experience in classrooms across Canada and continues to encourage curiosity, connection and a life-long learning about agriculture and food,” says Johanne Ross, Executive Director of AITC-C. “Collectively, AITC-C and all ten of our provincial members work to provide interesting and engaging experiences to foster inspiration and motivation for students to discover their role in the agri-food system.”

Topics discussed during CALM ignite the discussion surrounding food security, safety, and production. Details can be found on our website; [www.aitcnl.ca](http://www.aitcnl.ca) or social media; Facebook: Agriculture in the Classroom NL; Twitter and Instagram: @aitcnl



“Now more than ever, young Canadians are curious about where their food comes from. It’s important that they connect with farmers and feel a pride and appreciation for the care that farmers have for their land, animals, and crops,” said Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. “I join you in celebrating Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month and congratulate the dedicated team at Agriculture in the Classroom Canada for another successful year.”

“Sharing stories about farming and visiting with farmers and producers is an excellent way to help children understand where the food on their plates comes from,” said the Honourable Derrick Bragg, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture. “These stories give students a sense of the hard work and dedication that goes into every meal, and will hopefully spark their interest in pursuing careers in agriculture. Thanks to Agriculture in the Classroom Newfoundland and Labrador for helping to inspire students in our province’s classrooms.”

This project is funded in part by the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year, \$3-billion commitment by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments that supports Canada's agri-food and agri-products sectors. This includes a \$2 billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership provided \$305,000 to support Agriculture in the Classroom activities in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2021-2022.

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