

Karl C. Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship Recipients 2018

CAMERON OLSON, PHD LEVEL RECIPIENT



Cameron Olson is a PhD student in the Faculty of Agricultural Food and Nutritional Science, University of Alberta. His research focuses on genetic and environmental effects on feed intake, feed efficiency, female fertility, and cow lifetime productivity of beef cattle raised under two environments. He completed his BSc in Animal Science and MSc on feeding behavior and feed efficiency in beef cattle at Texas A&M University.

Cameron is a native of Alberta and was raised on a farm with a beef cattle operation. He is a member of several industry-related organizations including the American Society of Animal Science, the Canadian Society of Animal Science and the Foothills Forage and Grazing Association. He serves on the executive board as Vice President – Finance for the Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science

Graduate Student Association and as a Director-at-Large of the Alberta Limousin Association. He is also an instructor with the Classroom Agriculture Program, presenting to grade school students about beef cattle and production.

Cameron has completed three internships in the agricultural industry, one with JBS Foods as a summer intern, and two with Feedlot Health Management Services as a Feeds and Feeding Summer Student and later a Fall Research Student.

He hopes to pursue a career consulting on nutrition and management that would allow him to be closely involved in communicating novel research directly to producers. He also plans to continue his own beef cattle operation, developing a standout herd of cattle that are selected for production efficiency.

NICOLE BRIGGS, MASTERS LEVEL RECIPIENT



Nicole Briggs is a Masters student in the Faculty of Agricultural Food and Nutritional Science, University of Alberta. Her research focuses on trace mineral dairy cow nutrition.

A native of Alberta, Nicole grew up on a dairy farm and was an active member of 4-H and continues as a leader, volunteering time as a public speaker and presentation coach, teaching riding lessons to equine clubs, and assisting 4-H clubs where needed.

She has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Intercollegiate Rodeo Association and as Vice-President for her local community Triple R Riding Club. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Miss Rodeo Canada, helping young women in Canada promote and be an ambassador for the sport of rodeo and the agriculture industry.

She has worked as a ranch hand, operating farm machinery, handling and care of cattle and horses and assisting with running equine sporting events at the facility. Following that, she then worked as a veterinary assistant at an equine veterinary practice through the University of Alberta Internship Program. She then won the title of Miss Rodeo Canada and for a year, traveled to over 600 appearances through Canada, the United States and Australia promoting the sport of rodeo and being an ambassador for agriculture in Canada.

She currently works for Cowtown, a division of Masterfeeds in retail sales of equine and pet feed, and western apparel. She hopes to pursue a career as a dairy nutritionist, working directly with producers.