



**MINISTER
OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Room 141
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

**MINISTER
OF AGRICULTURE**

Room 165
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

July 31, 2023

Jill Verwey
President
Keystone Agricultural Producers Inc.
colin.hornby@kap.ca

Dear Jill Verwey:

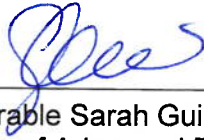
As the Ministers of the departments of Advanced Education and Training and Agriculture, we are proud to announce that we will be providing financial support for Manitoba unfunded students pursuing their studies in veterinary medicine at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine through the University of Saskatchewan. The inaugural Labour Market Fund, designed to address specific skills and talent needs in Manitoba's workforce will be the source of the financial support.

The Department of Advanced Education and Training will provide each of the unfunded students with a one-time grant of \$70,000 this year, to assist with the costs of the required program fees throughout their years of study. In return, the students will need to commit to practice veterinary medicine in Manitoba for a minimum of six months upon graduation.

We believe that this generous financial support for nearly one third of the total cost to attend the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program will be meaningful and impactful to the students. We wish to support them in their studies in this important field, and that they know they are welcome to practice in Manitoba when they graduate.

This made-in-Manitoba approach will not only assist students to meet their educational goal, but will also help alleviate labour market challenges that the veterinary sector is experiencing, particularly in rural areas of our province. Thank you for your dedication to agricultural excellence in Manitoba, ensuring we are able to support current and future economic growth in this vital sector.

Sincerely,



Honourable Sarah Guillemard
Minister of Advanced Education
and Training



Honourable Derek Johnson
Minister of Agriculture

- c. Brenda DeSerranno, Deputy Minister, Agriculture
Jan Forster, Deputy Minister, Advanced Education and Training
Colleen Kachulak, Assistant Deputy Minister, Advanced Education and Training
Dr. Scott Zaari, Chief Veterinary Officer, Agriculture