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Canadian Centre for Rural
and Agricultural Health
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NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN CENTRE FOR
RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL HEALTH

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CCRAH IS CELEBRATING 40 YEARS!

40 Years Strong

*Rooted in Community,
Driven by Research*



Developing and offering programs, resources, and services to rural and agricultural people - built through strong partnerships and backed by our cutting-edge research.

OUR MISSION:

We move rural health research to action through programs and resources to support rural people to live and work healthy and safe.

OUR STRATEGY:

We are a developer, collaborator, source, connector, and catalyst to advance research, knowledge mobilization, and services in the health and safety of rural and agricultural populations.

OUR VISION:

A world where rural people are understood as the basis of rural sustainability.

OUR VALUES:

Partnering. Collaboration. Innovation.
Commitment. Sharing. Impact.

CCRAH HIGHLIGHTS

Registration for SHARP 2026 is open!



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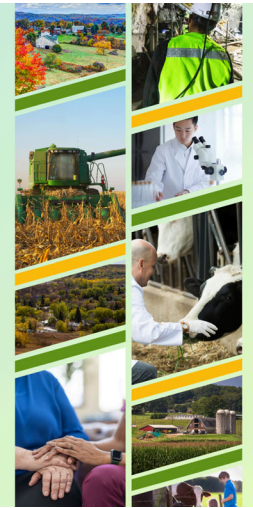


CASA | ACSA
CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE SÉCURITÉ AGRICOLE

8th International Symposium

Safety & Health in Agricultural & Rural Populations - SHARP 2026

Partnering for Success



Registration has opened for SHARP 2026! Early-bird rates available until April 30th, room block at conference hotel is available until May 14th!

Register for
SHARP 2026

Book a Hotel
Room

SHARP
Program

CCRAH has been busy over the last few months, click the links below to learn more!

- [CCRAH 40th Anniversary Celebration](#)
- [Registration is open for SHARP 2026!](#)
- [AHSN Annual General Meeting & SARM Annual Convention and Trade Show 2026](#)
- [SIPPA meeting with Federal Minister and MP](#)
- [St. Patrick's Day 2026](#)
- [Welcome to CCRAH!](#)
- [Farewell and Best Wishes](#)

CCRAH Highlights

Congratulations!

- **Congratulations to Jake Henson Andres, MSc student in Biological Engineering** for receiving the Brian Dale Goodchild Award in Engineering worth \$4,250 for his research project titled “*Simulation and pilot-scale studies of cold plasma treatment in pig barns*”

Ike Thiessen: Building a Foundation Award



The inaugural Ike Thiessen: Building a Foundation Award was presented in March 2020 to the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) recognizing the fundamental role they play in helping grow and enhance the activities of the Agricultural Health and Safety Network. Isaac (Ike) Thiessen was a farmer in the rural municipality of Aberdeen (RM #373) and president of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) from 1986 – 1988. Ike was instrumental in the recruiting of the first RMs in 1988 to join the

Agricultural Health and Safety Network setting the foundation for future growth. This award is given annually in recognition of the support and dedication to the Agricultural Health and Safety Network for helping us further our mission and build a foundation of health and safety for agriculture in Saskatchewan.

This year's Ike Thiessen: Building a Foundation Award goes to **Sheri and Darin Pedersen!**

Sheri and Darin are strong supporters of CCRAH and the AHSN. Darin chairs our AHSN steering committee and Sheri presents our Discovery Days program to rural member RM schools.



SARM 90th Anniversary Scholarship



In 1995, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural municipalities (SARM) auctioned off the first copy of their history book, "The Building of a Province: Commemorating the 90th Anniversary of the Saskatchewan Association

of Rural Municipalities" and with these funds initiated the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities 90th Anniversary \$1,000 Student Scholarship in Agricultural Safety and Rural Health. Since 1996, The Canadian Centre for Rural and Agricultural Health (CCRAH), University of Saskatchewan through its Founding Chairs Program has maintained the Agricultural Safety and Rural Health Scholarship. In the 2013-2014 school year, CCRAH started offering two \$1,500 Student Scholarships.

The winners of the 2025-2026 SARM Scholarship

Keith Daae - RM of Cambria #6, Div. 1
Liam Reeve - RM of Big Quill #308, Div. 4



"When safety and health are taken seriously, the farm runs smoother and people feel more confident doing their jobs. Making safety a priority helps protect everyone on the farm and helps make sure everyone goes home safe at the end of the day."

Keith Daae - RM of Cambria #6, Div. 1



"To establish the safety of our farm, we focus on communication and preparation for our employees. We have weekly Monday morning meetings which we use to discuss potential close call accidents and how to properly complete tasks safely."

Liam Reeve - RM of Big Quill #308, Div. 4

RESEARCH NEWS

Shoulder Health and Ergonomics Research Lab



Sarah Fitzgerald and Andrea Fernandez visited the Neuromuscular Research Lab at the University of Regina to complete 10 sessions with Regina-based breast cancer survivors for the ongoing SHER Lab Project. Thank you to Drs. John Barden and Dan Viggiani for their support!

Rural Dementia Action Research (RaDAR)



Rural Dementia Action Research (RaDAR) team (left to right): Dr. Allison Cammer, Dr. Andrew Kirk, Dr. Megan O'Connell, Duane Minish, Dr. Debra Morgan, Jennifer Fairbairn, Darla Walz, Dr. Julie Kosteniuk

The Rural Dementia Action Team (RaDAR) at the Canadian Centre for Rural and Agricultural Health (CCRAH) is celebrating a significant investment from the provincial government that will strengthen dementia assessment and care for people living in rural and remote communities across the province. The newly secured funding ensures the continued operation — and major expansion — of the specialist Rural and Remote Memory Clinic (RRMC) and the network of Rural Primary Care Memory Clinics. [Read more here](#)

RaDAR's Winter 2026 Newsletter has been released!

To join our mailing list, please email Mira Bisso at mira.bisso@usask.ca. Previous editions of the newsletter can be found on our [website](#)!

View the latest edition [here!](#)

JANUARY 2026
NEWSLETTER



[Participate in CCRAH Research!](#)

Looking to participate in some of our ground-breaking rural and agricultural health and safety research? [Click here](#) to see ongoing projects that are currently recruiting participants!

KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION

Low-Cost ROPS Program featured in Small Farm Canada



CCRAH researchers Drs. Niels Koehncke and Jim Wassermann recently did an interview with Small Farm Canada about our Low-Cost Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS) Program! [Read the article here](#)

Sheila Naytowhow Young Innovators Article



Sheila Naytowhow

Sheila Naytowhow, a MSc student under Dr. Shelley Kirychuk's supervision at CCRAH, was recently interviewed by Erin Matthews at the Saskatoon Star Phoenix about her graduate research project on Exploring the health and wellness of Indigenous Leaders. [Read the article here.](#)

Advancing Women in Agriculture & Food Conference



Collage of Katie Thompson attending the Advancing Women in Agriculture & Food Conference in Calgary, AB.

Katie Thompson from the CCRAH Communications Team was in Calgary on March 8-10, 2026 attending the [Advancing Women in Agriculture and Food Conference](#). Katie spent the time connecting with innovators, learning from leaders, and bringing back fresh perspectives to help strengthen our mission of advancing health and safety for rural and agricultural people across Canada.

What's been happening at the RaDAR rural memory clinics?

Let's hear from Chelsie on the ground!



Chelsie Cameron

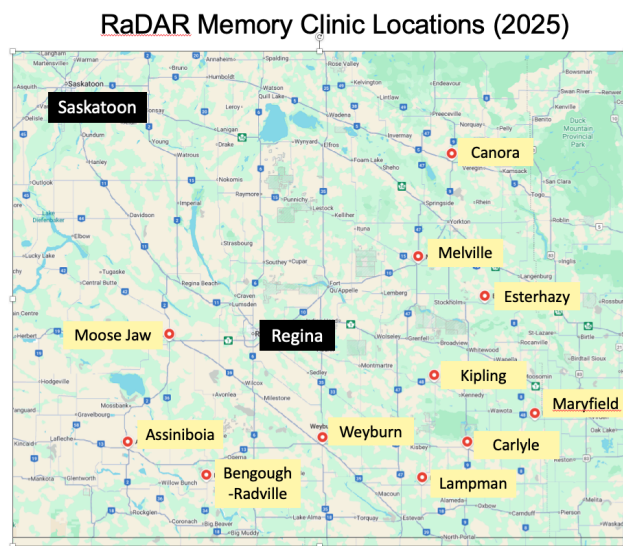
- There were 10 memory clinics held in 4 communities between January 1st and March 31st.
- The lovely winter conditions did not keep the rural memory clinic teams from seeing patients! The total number of patients reached across all memory clinics was 20, with all patients being new.

Are You a Healthcare Provider?

If you are a healthcare provider looking for education resources, the RaDAR team is pleased to provide these [resources for healthcare providers and professionals](#). Most of these resources have been produced by RaDAR team members and are intended to provide more detail about the subject area.

Want to catch up on the latest updates about RaDAR's Rural Memory Clinics? [Click here](#) to read the 2024 Update!

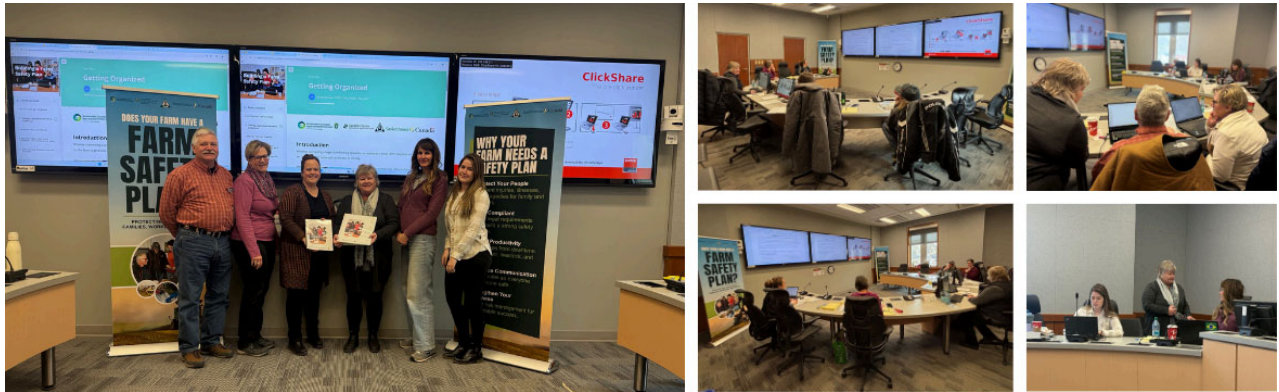
We are continuing to spread the [rural primary care memory clinics](#). If you or someone you know might be interested and want to learn more, please contact **Julie Kosteniuk** - julie.kosteniuk@usask.ca



RaDAR's Rural Memory Clinic Locations
Canora, Melville, Esterhazy, Kipling,
Maryfield, Carlyle, Lampman, Weyburn,
Bengough-Radville, Assiniboia, Moose Jaw

Agricultural Health and Safety Network (AHSN)

Farm Safety Plan Development Workshops



- **PHASE I** - Virtual
 - January 20th
 - January 26th
- **PHASE II** - Virtual
 - January 21st
 - February 3rd
 - February 4th
- **PHASE III** - in person at CCRAH, Saskatoon, SK
 - March 24th
 - March 25th

Trade Shows and Events



Collage of recent events and trade shows the AHSN has attended

- [Western Canadian Crop Production Show](#) - January 13-15, Saskatoon
- [Saskatchewan Safety Seminar](#) - February 3-5, Saskatoon
- [Northeast AgUpdate Conference](#) - February 3, Melfort
- **Celebrating Rural Ranching Women** - February 5-6, Maple Creek
- [Future of Food](#) - February 10, Ottawa
- [SARM Annual Convention & Trade Show](#) - March 10-12, Regina
- [Canada's Farm Show](#) - March 17-19, Regina

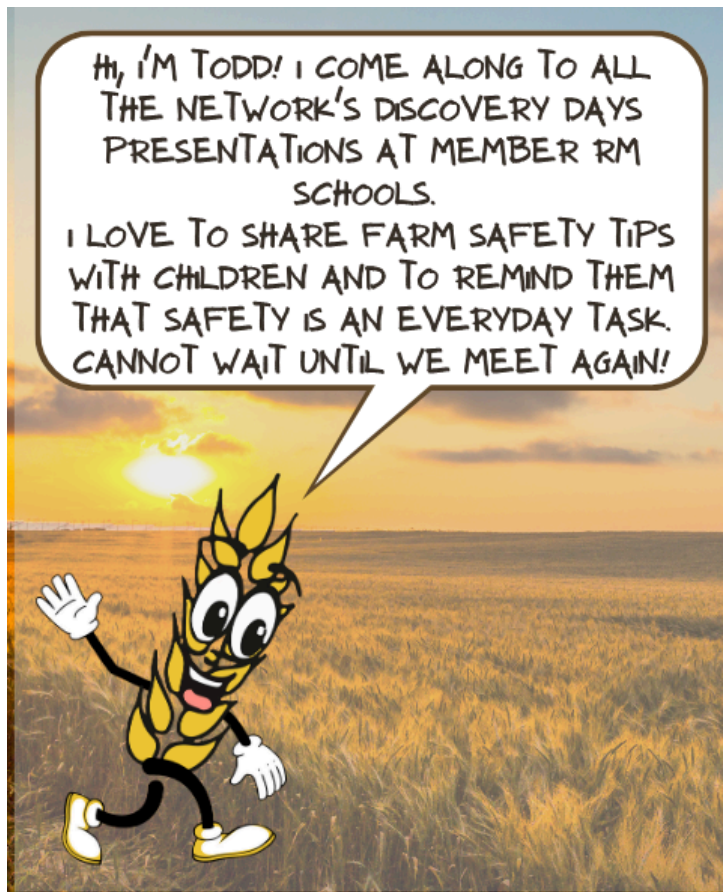
Gear Up for Ag Health and Safety



Collage showcasing our Gear Up for Ag presentation at Assiniboine College in partnership with the Ag Health & Safety Alliance

- **Assiniboine College** - January 28, Brandon, MB

Discovery Days



15 Presentations
at 8 Schools/Events in 8 RMs to
234 Students



2,744 KMs
travelled across Saskatchewan
to deliver Discovery Days!

Recent Discovery Day Presentations:

- **North Valley Elementary School** - RM of McLeod #185, Div. 1
- **Preeceville School** - RM of Preeceville #334, Div. 4
- **Hofer Colony School** - RM of Keys #303, Div. 4
- **Prairie Grove Colony School** - RM of Loreburn #254, Div. 5
- **Ituna School** - RM of Ituna Bon Accord #246, Div. 4
- **West Bench Colony School** - RM of White Valley #49, Div. 3
- **McGee Colony School** - RM of Pleasant Valley #288, Div. 6
- **Consul School** - RM of Reno #51, Div. 3



Collage showcasing our Discovery Days presentations

AGRICULTURAL SAFETY DISCOVERY DAYS

BOOK NOW

Call:

306-966-6644

or

E-mail:

shs954@email.usask.ca



One2One Respiratory and Hearing Clinics



What are One2One Clinics?

[One2One Respiratory and Hearing Clinics](#)

assess respiratory or hearing health for Saskatchewan farmers, families, and farm workers. The clinics are held either at our AHSN clinic at USask campus or in your local RM.

CCRAH Publications & Presentations

January - March 2026

Publications:

- Alvarado A., Baguindoc M., Bolo R., Kirychuk S., Predicala B. (2025). [Performance Evaluation of Fan-ventilated Swine Trailer with Air Filtration for Maintaining Satisfactory Transport Conditions](#). *Animals*, 16(1):83
- Singh A., Nawayseh N., Doyon-Poulin P., Milosavljevic S., Rakheja S., Kumar Y., Dewangan K.N., Trask C., Samuel S. (2026). [Multi-model machine learning for predicting tractor operator discomfort caused by whole-body vibration](#). *Computers and Electronics in Agriculture*, 243:111375
- Francisco H., Okpalauwaekwe U., Milosavljevic S. (2026). [Effects of Preferred Music on Pain Tolerance During an Experimental Cold Pressor Test: A Pilot Study](#). *Cureus*, 18(1)
- Hoja I., Mistareehi A.J., Alqudah N., Mohammad A., Alraddadi A., Ghozlan H., Katselis G.S., Mustafa A.G., Allouh M.Z. (2026). [Educational quality of ocular and orbital anatomy videos on Youtube: a student-and patient-centered evaluation](#). *BMC Medical Education*. Online ahead of print
- Lang, A.E. & Abiara, S. (2026). [Repeatability of scapular motion tracking in individuals with high body mass index](#). *Frontiers: Sport and Active Living*, 7: 1722571
- Lang, A.E., Fitzgerald, S.A., Peters, M.R., Bath, B., Carr, T., & Kim, S.Y. (2026). **Exploring upper limb musculoskeletal symptoms after gender-affirming top surgery: a cross-sectional study**. *BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders*, in press.
- Yang B, Bowes B, Leader J, Aiyer H, Dunn H, Adams S, McIntyre L, O'Connell ME, Behl V, Mendez I and Lovo S. (2026). **Implementation and Evaluation of Virtual Care in Canadian Healthcare Systems: A Scoping Review**. *Journal of Telemedicine and E-health*. (In press)
- Cetin-Sahin, D., Sourial, N., Bronskill, S.E., Seitz, D., Maclagan, L.C., Godard-Sebillotte, C., Massamba, V.K., Rochette, L., Wilchesky, M., Feldman, S., Gruneir, A., Smith, E., Beuscart, J-B., Montero-Odasso, M.,

- Diong, C., Arsenault-Lapierre, G., Kosteniuk, J., Sivananthan, S., Bosson-Rieutort, D., Le Berre, M., Miskucza, K., Vedel, I., for the COVID-ROSA Research Team. (2026). [Family physician and specialist care for persons with dementia living in the community: through thick and thin](#). Family Practice. 43 (1), cmaf105.
- Rodriguez, M., Vedel, I., Cetin-Sahin, D., Bousbiat, I., Godard-Sebillotte, C., Sourial, N., Maclagan, L., Diong, C., Bronskill, S., Seitz, D., Morgan, D., Rochette, L., Kubuta Massamba, V., Quail, J., Arsenault-Lapierre, G. and the COVID-ROSE group. (2025). [A meta-Analysis of sex-based differences in health service use for persons living with dementia between 2018 and 2020 in four Canadian provinces](#). Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. 73(10): 1-11.
 - Bolo, R., Martel, M., Alvarado, A., Alluag, A., Predicala, B., Thompson, B., Guo, H., Kirychuk, S., & Zhang, L. (2026). **Decontamination of a swine transport trailer using an electro-nanospray system**. Canadian Biosystems Engineering. In press.
 - Dyck RF, Karunanayake C, Pahwa P, Osgood N. [Diabetes Risk Is Increased in First Nations and Non—First Nations Offspring of Mothers With Diabetes and Worsened Among Those Large for Gestational Age: Results From the DIP: ORRIGENSS Project](#). Can J Diabetes. April 2026 (In Press)
-

Presentations:

- Adams S, Lovo S, Samaniego M. (2026). **Virtual Care, Artificial Intelligence, and Digital Twins: The Future of Interprofessional Care**. Canadian Nursing Students Association. Saskatoon
- Kosteniuk J., Açan Osman B, Quail J. **Using administrative data in rural dementia health services research. An invited oral presentation at Big Ideas About Health Data Speaker Series: Health Data Research Network Canada**. Virtual. January 29, 2026.
- Alford H., Cammer A., Dupperon A., Morgan, D., Cameron C., Kosteniuk J. **Communication and follow-up after initial evaluation in RaDAR primary care memory clinics. An oral presentation at Geriatric Evaluation and Management Program Education Day**. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, December 12, 2025.

UPCOMING EVENTS



RaDAR Summit 2026

Save the date! Summit 2026 will be hosted as a one-day, online event on **Thursday, November 19th, 2026**. As planning progresses, more details will be shared on this page: <https://cchsa-ccssma.usask.ca/ruraldementiacare/summit/upcoming-summit.php>.

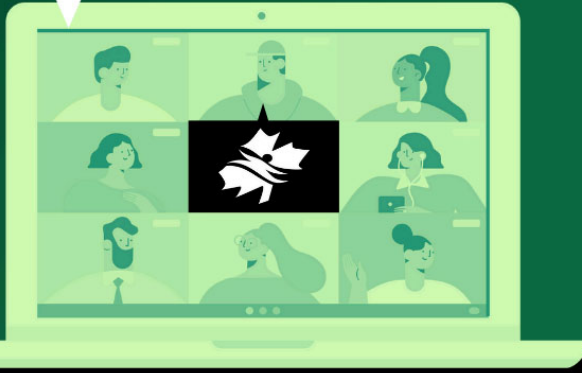
If you have questions about Summit 2026, please contact radar.summit@usask.ca

Seminar Series

CCRAH 2025

Seminars are held every other Tuesday during the academic term from 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm in room 1254 in E-Wing of Health Sciences.

They are conducted both online via Zoom and in-person at CCRAH.



CCRAH's rural and agricultural health seminar series invites speakers affiliated with CCRAH, other departments at USask, and guests to discuss current rural and agricultural health related research.

If you wish to present or attend our seminar series, please contact:

Dr. Angelica Lang
angelica.lang@usask.ca

Check out the seminar schedule on our website!

CCRAH Research Seminars are available to attend online via Zoom or in person in room 1254 in the E-Wing of Health Sciences building. For more information about upcoming seminars or to contact us for the zoom link, [visit our website!](#)

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA)

- [CASA Bulletin - January](#)
- [CASA Bulletin - February](#)
- [CASA Bulletin - March](#)
- [CASA Bulletin - April](#)

Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM)

- [Rural Dart](#)
- [Rural Sheaf](#)
- [Rural Councillor](#)

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The Canadian Centre for Rural and Agricultural Health (CCRAH) empowers rural and agricultural people to thrive where they live and work through innovative research, dedicated resources, outreach, and services.



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