

11th Native Prairie Restoration/Reclamation Workshop

Atlas Hotel, Regina, SK

*draft program is subject to change

February 12, 2025

9:00-10:00	Registration		
Rooms >>	Imperial Ballroom		
10:00 -10:30	Welcome - Sponsor Introduction		
10:30-11:15	Plenary #1 Partners for okâwîmâwaskiy [Mother Earth]: a First Nations and Academic Partnership – Dr Andy Miller, First Nations University of Canada and Elder Bill Strongarm, Touchwood Agency Tribal Council		
11:15-12:00	Plenary #2 Uncovering Hidden Allies: The Role of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi in Restoring Alberta’s Threatened Grasslands – Dr Adriana Morrell, Lethbridge Polytechnic		
12:00-1:00	Lunch - Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show		
Rooms >>			
	Lessons Learned		
1:00-1:30	A Tale of Two Sites: Same seed, same time, different results Chris Tenszen, Trace Associates	<p align="center">“Speed Dating” CASE STUDY</p> <p align="center"><i>Each scenario will have a 3-minute overview presented by a Table Leader. Groups of mixed attendees will have 12 minutes to work through and solve the scenario. Groups will change and rotate through different 4-5 scenarios.</i></p> <p align="center"><u>Scenario topics include:</u> Wetland Restoration Invasive Species Prevention and Management Species at Risk Habitat Restoration Reclamation Seeds and Soils</p>	
1:30-2:00	Restoring the Prairie: In it for the long haul Daryn Farrant, Grasslands National Park		
2:00-2:30	The Economics of Grassland Conservation Auctions in Saskatchewan Koal Sammons, University of Saskatchewan		
2:30-3:00	Landowner Insight on Seeding Native Grass through Reverse Auction for Grassland Restoration Program Mindy Anderson, SK Stock Growers Foundation and Justin Carrier		
3:00-3:30	Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show		
Rooms >>			
	Beyond Restoration	Soil	Seeds
3:30-4:00	Prairie Song: How Can We Monitor Declining Grassland Bird Populations?	Soil microbiome mediation of invasion in the Canadian Great Plains	Travels of a Nuffield Scholar: The WOW Factor of the European Native Seed Industry

	Sarah McIntire, The Nature Conservancy	Dr Jon Bennett, University of Saskatchewan	Renny Grilz, Blazing Star Wildflower Seed Company
4:00 – 4:30	Rare Nitsitaapi Plants in Alberta: <i>Asclepias viridiflora</i> and <i>Geranium viscosissimum</i> Toryanse Blanchard, University of Calgary	Harnessing the Power of the Microbiome for Native Prairie Restoration Rachel Tilford_Njaa, HumaTerra	Travels of a Nuffield Scholar: The Unique Perspectives of "Habitat Restoration" in Europe Renny Grilz, Blazing Star Wildflower Seed Company
4:30-5:00	Indigenous Network for Invasive Species Management Daryl Wright, Seed 2 Leaf Environmental Consulting Inc.		
5:00-6:00	Designated Poster Session / Trade Show		
6:00-8:00	Banquet & Silent Auction		
7:00–8:00	Speaker and Award Ceremony		

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Rooms>>	Imperial		
8:30-8:45	Greetings		
8:45-10:00	Producer Panel Discussion: Experiences from “Boots on the Ground” about seeding sources, rates, site preparation and site management. South of the Divide Conservation Action Program		
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show		
Rooms >>			
		Urban	Traditional Case Study
10:30-11:00	Establishing Vegetation in Riparian Areas Dr Fardausi (Shathi) Akhter, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada	The Meadoway Restoration Project: Best Practices for Site Preparation and Invasive Plant Management Sarah Kotsopoulos, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	Redberry Lake Biosphere Region Topics include native grass seeding, restoration for species at risk, restoration with native plugs, 30 Billion Trees by 2030, Collaboration and Engagement and more!
11:00-11:30	Protecting and restoring natural features through agroecosystem research on a landscape scale Dr. Branimir Gjetvaj, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada	The Value of Native Pollinator Gardens: Understanding Preferences and Willingness to Pay for Urban Ecosystem Services Dr Oscar Zapata, University of Saskatchewan	
11:30-12:00			
Rooms >>	Imperial		
12:00-1:00	Lunch Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show		

Rooms >>			
	Tools for Conservation	Collaboration	Invasive Species
1:00-1:30	Optimal and current potential habitats of plains rough fescue (<i>Festuca hallii</i>) in North America Central Plains: What is left? Johan Home, University of Saskatchewan	Incorporating Indigenous Knowledge and Two-Eyed Seeing; Policies in Indigenous Partnerships Cristina Eisenberg, Oregon State University	Monitoring Biodiversity Response to Invasive Annual Grass Control Across Several Western Ecoregions Dr. Victoria Maloney, Envu
1:30-2:00	Using science and technology to address biome collapse in the Great Plains Samantha Cady, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Collaboration John Kindrachuk, Redberry Lake Biosphere Region	Vegetation Responses to Native Grassland Restoration in Solar Farm Riley (Fengxue) Zheng, University of Alberta
2:00-2:30	Range Health Assessment Update Matthew Braun and Levi Boutin, Nature Conservancy of Canada	Restoring cultivated lands back to native prairie species in southwest Saskatchewan Diego Steinaker, South of the Divide Conservation Action Program Inc	One Government Invasive Weeds Task Force Cory Jacob, SK Ministry of Agriculture
2:30-2:45	Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show		
Rooms >>	Imperial		
2:45-3:15	Plenary #3: Seeds of Success – Dr Cristina Eisenberg, Oregon State University		
3:15-3:45	Plenary #4: Building community, Ecosystem – Dr Dirac Twidwell, University of Nebraska-Lincoln		
3:45 -4:00	Closing Remarks Hand in Evaluations & Head Home - Safe Travels!		

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