

## “I’m Passionate About”

Agriculture; the science or practice of farming. Personally, agriculture is not this definition to me. It is my lifestyle, my home, and my future. It is nourishing a plant or animal, to see them change and develop for their own health, the animal’s dependence on you, and the gratefulness that you can hear in every breath. It’s the never ending community of friendly faces sitting having coffee before a long day of work. It’s the continuous learning throughout life that only makes you a better caretaker. It’s the freedom of checking crops, letting the horses out to pasture, and constantly being on your feet. Lastly, it’s the pain, loss, effort, and pride that goes into everything you do and still having tomorrow to do it all over again. To me this is agriculture and why I have a passion for it.

This current passion has influenced me to do something in the industry of agriculture ever since I was little. My whole life I have lived on a grain farm south of Glenavon where I operate the combine during harvest and work with my horses. Until recently I never noticed there is more drawing me to it than I first believed. First of all, it has always been the animals, and of course the people that put their hearts into it with every breath they are given. The community around me shows me how great they are every day; from my dad’s passion to my helpful neighbours. The cycle of helpfulness from actions like giving a spare part or helping get all the crops off the field is never ending. Secondly, the industry is constantly changing and progressing in terms of medicine, technology, and methods. I like to know that I will have to be changing, adapting, and challenging myself to it’s changing fields. Not only does it change but it is diverse in terms of work and opportunities in which I found engaging. Finally, the opportunities to do what I love everyday while still having a chance to grow and change is an immense influence on me.

My feelings of a bright future for myself in agriculture is also shared with my feelings for our province’s future. I am confident that the agriculture industry will use their skills and knowledge to tackle challenges for issues we face now and will face in the future. The industry will continue to grow in size and in heart, becoming more welcoming than it currently is. I believe that it will continue to progress in a positive and innovative direction for both the earth and those who live on it in terms of sustainability and being eco friendly. More specifically I believe machinery will become more independent from our human assistance and maintenance. Similar to the machinery, there will be new grain hybrids so farmers will not have to use any pesticides and chemicals. Finally, I know that changes are in store for Saskatchewan in the future and I will gratefully be a part of it.

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