

"I am Passionate about Ag" Scholarship

My name is Miya Beare, I grew up on a mixed grain and cattle farm near Fillmore, Sk. I am currently in my last year of high school in Fillmore and am conditionally accepted into the agribusiness diploma program at the University of Saskatchewan. My passion for agriculture starts with my childhood, living on our family farm. In the winter I would bottle feed calves, water the cows, and bed the barn. My summers were spent in the grain truck or riding around the combine. As I got older I became the one running the equipment. My days are spent haying, seeding, combining, or any job there is to do, I've done it. School is also something I put effort into, I've earned highest honors with an average above 90 in every year of high school.

A lot of my passion stems from a respect for the work and the farmers. It takes a different breed of person to do what we do. To be able to pour everything you have into the ground at seeding in hopes that maybe this year it will rain, or maybe the prices will be good come fall. Then to wake up at the harsh hour of 4am to check cows during calving season with the wind howling at -40. Those are the people, like my dad, that we need more of. Honest work, day in and day out, no weekends, no holidays, farming doesn't wait around for you to be ready. It's a lifestyle where everyday is different, a trait that many people look for in a career; but ask any old farmer and they'll be smiling ear to ear if they can say that they've had a boring day.

I am driven to pursue agriculture because of how deeply it is rooted in my identity. It is sewn into the way I act, respect, learn, and view the world. I always put in effort to learn new things through helping others. That could be helping a neighbour with a prolapsed cow, or cutting a bull out for another. I see the value in experience. I've been told that when I find something I like, I really go for it, and it's hard to pull me off of it. This is true for my involvement with horses, I never grew up with them but developed an itch for cowhorses when I was about thirteen. I had a very rough start, having to essentially teach myself. This is where I discovered the value in hard work, learning from others, and asking questions. I now do a lot of the cattle work on horseback and will start cutting shows this coming spring.

The opportunity in the future of agriculture is huge. I see a shift from small operations to larger ones. I see the economic value in large scale operations. However I think the real value lies in the smaller family farms, ones that keep communities like mine thriving. Farmers that will help each other out when you're in crunch time and have a breakdown. Or going into the local bakery at lunchtime. It is crucial that we have a younger generation stepping up to the job since most farmers are near retiring age with barely anybody to step up to the plate. It is a life that many wish they had the opportunity to live. So, I will take that opportunity that has been given to me and use it. I believe I can take my background and my ability to learn quickly and use it to better the future of agriculture.

