

**Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta 2018 Poetry Contest
Biographies of 50 Great Alberta Farmers and Ranchers**

You can choose one of these people to inspire your poem. Have fun learning about the interesting people throughout Alberta's history who have led the way in farming, ranching and caring for the land!

1) An Alberta Indigenous Farmer/Rancher

You may choose any Alberta Indigenous farmer or rancher as the inspiration for your poem.

2) Ellen Armstrong

Mrs. Armstrong provided outstanding service to rural Albertans in many areas, and served with the Alberta and Canadian Federations of Agriculture. As a director of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, she worked for improved radio and television coverage of rural Alberta. She served as Director of the Alberta Safety Council for eight years. In her home community of Hussar, she organized the first Farm Women's Union of Alberta group and brought the first public health nurse and first district home economist into the area.

3) Dr. Edwin E. Ballantyne

Dr. Edwin Ballantyne's contribution to agriculture and veterinary medicine is outstanding. He introduced several cooperative animal health programs during the years he was Director of Veterinary Services for the Alberta Department of Agriculture. As a result of two of those programs, two diseases, Brucellosis and Rabies, were brought under control. From 1971-75 he was Deputy Minister for Alberta Environment, the first Department of Environment in Canada.

4) Mabel Barker

Mabel Barker's first contribution to rural life was her voice, as she travelled throughout Alberta by buggy for musical engagements. She served the United Farm Women of Alberta and its descendant organizations in several capacities since 1926. Mrs. Barker was honored by the Red Cross for 25 years of service, including war time work as district campaign head. She was a member of the Child and Family Welfare Association.

5) Allan Beattie

Allan Beattie had devoted a lifetime to the promotion of agriculture. Highly respected as a district agriculturalist for Alberta Agriculture and as Director of Public Relations for the Alberta Wheat Pool, Mr. Beattie had made significant contributions as advisor to and spokesperson for the industry. He initiated such successful projects as the 4-H public speaking program and competition, the Grain Academy and the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede's Country College. Mr. Beattie was made a Fellow of the Agriculture Institute of Canada in 1980 and was awarded a life membership in the Canadian Society of Extension in 1992.

6) Hazel Braithwaite

To many Albertans, Hazel Braithwaite was considered to be one of the most influential women in agriculture. For more than 40 years she spearheaded women's farm movements in the province. She found time to immerse herself in the United Farm Women of Alberta and held every possible position including President. Mrs. Braithwaite served on the Boards of Directors of the National Farmers' Union and Alberta Federation of Agriculture and was prairie farm woman representative to the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. She served with organizations concerned with the elderly, education, children with disabilities, consumers and civil defence. She also sat on the University of Alberta Board of Governors and Senate.

7) Senator Patrick Burns

Born in Victoria County, Ontario, in 1855, Senator Patrick Burns was the fourth of eleven children. Patrick left home with his older brother John and took a homestead in 1878 near Winnipeg. He worked on a railway gang and as a cowboy to earn extra money. He had contracts across western Canada to supply fresh meat to railroad construction camps. In 1890, he came to Calgary where he built his first slaughter house. He became known as the "Cattle King." At one time his cattle empire stretched 450,000 acres from Cochrane south to the American border. He had over 100 retail meat shops in Alberta and British Columbia. He also established

65 creameries and cheese factories and even 18 wholesale fruit houses! In 1912, he and three other ranchers financed the first Calgary Stampede. They became known as The Big Four. To celebrate his 75th birthday a huge cake was baked that fed 15,000 people.

8) George Church

As a young farmer at Balzac, George Church was famous for prize-winning Percheron draft horses. In later life, he was recognized for tireless devotion to strengthening the rural community. He was President of the United Farmers of Alberta for many years and served several Alberta organizations concerned with agricultural and industrial development. Mr. Church always found time to work for the Calgary Stampede and youth groups and offered cheerful service to his community.

9) Curtis Clark

Curtis Clark's passion for the dairy industry in Alberta spanned almost five decades. The winner of multiple awards throughout his career as a breeder, dairy judge and exhibitor, Mr. Clark was known for laying the groundwork for developing purebred breeders and superior cattle in Alberta. With his long-time partner Lloyd Pickard and later his son Jim, he grew Acme Holsteins of Carstairs into the most traveled, well recognized Holstein herd in Western Canada. The Curtis Clark Achievement Award at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto was started in 1988. It recognizes a winner who "exemplifies the all-around ability, sportsmanship, and dedication necessary to be respected by his fellow breeders and exhibitors."

10) Senator Matthew Cochrane

Matthew Henry Cochrane was an industrialist, livestock breeder, and politician. He was born in 1823 in Compton, Lower Canada. He died in 1903. The Cochrane Ranche was Alberta's first large-scale cattle ranch. In 1881, Senator Matthew Cochrane acquired several huge leases of land along the Bow River, near the present town of Cochrane, Alberta. At its peak, Cochrane Ranche totaled about 144,000 hectares of range land. In 1881 and 1882 Cochrane's company purchased thousands of head of cattle in Montana and drove them north, making Matthew Henry Cochrane the first of western Canada's great cattle ranchers. The ranch became one of several successful large-scale cattle operations along the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Now a provincial historic site owned by the town of Cochrane, the Cochrane Ranche offers tours and other interpretive programs. Part of original ranch is also preserved in Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park.

11) A.E. Cross

Alfred Ernest Cross was born in Montreal in 1861, the eldest of seven children. He studied at Ontario Agricultural College and Montreal Veterinary College and became a veterinary surgeon. When he was 22, he moved west and took a job as a vet and bookkeeper at the British American Ranch Company. Two years later, he started his own ranch, the a7, on Mosquito Creek, west of Nanton, Alberta. In 1892, Cross started a brewery in Calgary called the Calgary Brewing and Malting Company. His nickname was "The Jolly, Jolly Brewer." In 1912, he and three other notable ranchers, Patrick Burns, George Lane and Archie McLean (the Big Four), each contributed \$25,000 to fund the first Calgary Stampede. He was a founding member of the Ranchmen's Club, the Western Stock Growers' Association and the Calgary Board of Trade. Cross died in 1932. His legacy lives on in the A. E. Cross Junior High School and the A.E. Cross House in Calgary.

12) Dr. Tom Droog

Tom and his wife Emmy were the first in North America to produce flavoured sunflower and pumpkin seed snacks, called Spitz, and the first to sell these snacks in re-sealable bags. Tom contracted directly with southern Alberta farmers and worked very closely with them to help ensure their enterprises were profitable. Spitz became the number one selling sunflower seed in Canada capturing over 75 per cent of the Canadian market. Spitz was also sold in 42 states and became the number three selling brand in the U.S.

13) Dr. Leuan Evans

Dr. Leuan Evans, saved prairie farmers millions of dollars in grain yield and quality. In the early 1980s, he helped to demonstrate that some 30 to 40 per cent of Alberta cropland was deficient in copper for cereal production. Armed with this knowledge, producers saw their crop yields soar. In the mid-1980s, he organized

the Blackleg Control Program of Canola. It is estimated by the Alberta Canola Commission that this program saved Alberta canola growers between \$300 and \$500 million. His Alberta-developed Evans Cherry trees have sold in the millions across Canada and the United States.

14) Leonard Friesen

The cattle industry in Alberta is richer thanks to Leonard Friesen. In addition to working as a livestock buyer, rancher and cattle feeder, he encouraged young people with his involvement in 4-H and was a role model to thousands of 4-H members. In 1981, he received the Premier's Award for his outstanding service to 4-H and the cattle industry in general. Mr. Friesen judged hundreds of cattle shows, many of them in the U.S. He was an effective ambassador for the Alberta cattle industry, and was one of Alberta's largest cattle brokers in the 1970s and early 1980s. In 1995, he published a book called *Cows, Cowboys, Cattlemen and Characters*.

15) Claude Gallinger

You might wonder why one of Alberta's first coal mine operators should also be one of the nation's largest shorthorn cattle breeders. It all began as an economical way to keep the grass down on mine sites. Soon, however, the cattle themselves became a source of unending interest for Mr. Gallinger. Beginning with purebred imported stock from Scotland in 1932, he eventually developed the largest herd of shorthorns in Canada and established the "Killearn" bloodline as a standard.

16) James Gladstone

James Gladstone was born in 1887 on the Blood Reserve. In 1903, he was transferred to Calgary Indian Industrial School. In 1920, he began his own farm five miles north of Cardston. In partnership with his sons, he ran about 500 head of cattle and had 800 acres under cultivation. Gladstone attended one of the first meetings of the Indian Association of Alberta. He was elected President of the Association. He was a delegate to Ottawa to voice the concerns of his people. He played a prominent part in the fight for better education, greater respect for treaty rights, and the participation of First Nations in their own administration. On February 1st, 1958, he became the first Indigenous person appointed to the Senate. In his maiden speech, Senator Gladstone spoke a few sentences in Blackfoot "to place in the official debates a few words in the language of my own people." In the following year he was appointed co-chairman of a Joint committee of the Senate and the House of Commons was established to investigate Indian Affairs. In 1960, one of his dreams became a reality when the federal vote was extended to all First Nations people. He died in 1971.

17) James Graham

Several years of hail damage back in the 1950s persuaded Jim Graham to switch from grain to cattle production. The experience he gained as a producer and feeder combined with passion and know-how helped make Canada a world-wide leader and model for excellence in cattle production. Jim was chair of the Alberta Cattle Commission, the Beef Export Federation and the Canadian Cattlemen's Association. He is remembered for his 1986 stand against importing heavily subsidized European beef. When asked how much of the beef Canada would accept, he responded with, "Not one pound!" His decision saved the Canadian industry an estimated \$500 million over 10 years.

18) Mable Hamilton

Mabel Hamilton has been a producer of purebred Angus cattle for many years. As one of the founding members and past chair of the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency, Mabel played a huge role in the establishment of Canada's national cattle identification program. She worked with advertising and promotion as a Beef Information Centre Director and then Chairperson. Her leadership helped build consumer education and beef promotion. She served as a Canadian Cattlemen's Association board member, and she was one of the first women ever elected to this national industry organization. As President of the Canadian Angus Association, Mabel was at the helm when the Angus breed became one of the largest and most influential beef breeds in Canada.

19) Gordon Hilton

Gordon Hilton's place in the history of agriculture in Alberta began in the 1960s. A true pioneer of conservation tillage, Gordon brought one of the first no-till drills to Western Canada in 1980. His dedication and passion to the industry was evident. He worked tirelessly to educate and encourage other farmers to adopt conservation farming methods. From helping educate government to creating industry organizations, and working with industry to modify and improve existing equipment, his legacy will be one where soil degradation and wind erosion have been greatly reduced throughout Alberta and beyond. He was the first farmer ever inducted into the Soil Conservation Council of Canada's Hall of Fame in 1990.

20) William Roper Hull

William Roper Hull was born in Somerset, England in 1856. When he and his brother John were in their late teens they set sail for Panama and then hiked across Panama to the Pacific Ocean. From there, they found their way up to their Uncle William's ranch near Kamloops, B.C. In 1883, they drove 1,200 horses over the Crowsnest Pass to Calgary and sold them to the North-West Mounted Police and the North-West Cattle Company for \$50,000. In 1886, the Hull brothers and a partner set up a butchering and livestock-trading business known as Hull, Trounce and Company. They were the first to integrate cattle raising, meat packing, and retailing on a large scale in Alberta. William Roper Hull became a very wealthy man. In 1893, he built Calgary's first opera house, the Hull Block and the Grain Exchange which was Calgary's first skyscraper. In 1896 William Roper Hull built the beautiful Bow Valley Ranche House. When he died almost all of his wealth was given away, mostly towards the development of the William Roper Hull Home, which still thrives today.

21) George Hunter

George Hunter's agricultural achievements became models for many Indigenous farmers in northeastern Alberta. An active member of the Saddle Lake Reserve, Mr. Hunter sat on the Band Council for 15 years and served three years as Chief (1942-45). He was instrumental in developing local agricultural programs such as community pastures, commercial haying operations and the large Saddle Lake development centennial operation. Mr. Hunter retired from farming in 1973, but he continued to reside on the original homestead which he expanded from 20 to 1,000 acres of cultivated cropland during his active career.

22) Frank Jacobs

Frank Jacobs began his service to the rural community as a country school teacher and principal, and progressed to teaching vocational agriculture. Mr. Jacobs undertook his best known work of editing the Cattleman magazine in 1953, and continued until 1974. Long regarded as a farm leader and authority on Alberta's livestock industry, he became a familiar radio and television voice, and he received many awards during his journalistic career. He was active as a writer and agricultural consultant.

23) D.J. King

Dwayne "D.J." King is a former Canadian professional hockey player from Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan. King's other passion is for chuckwagon racing, which he shares with his Uncle Daniel. He was born on June 27, 1984 and grew up around wagon racing. He made his rookie driving debut in 2015 with the Canadian Professional Chuckwagon Association. King had a very strong rookie season and finished 19th overall in 2016.

24) Peter Knight

Peter "Pete" Knight was a famous cowboy and Saddle Bronc rider. He was born in 1903 in Philadelphia. He moved to a farm in Crossfield, Alberta with his family when he was 11 years old. He started riding horses in the rodeo when he was 15. He is one of the few riders who successfully rode the difficult horse "Midnight." In 1927, 1930 and 1933, Pete Knight won the "Prince of Wales" Trophy, which is given to the winner of the Bronc competition at the Calgary Stampede. Pete Knight also won four Canadian Rodeo titles and four world titles. He is a member of the Pro rodeo Hall of Fame in Colorado Springs, the Canadian Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, and Calgary's Horsemen's Hall of Fame. He has an arena named after him in Crossfield. He died during a rodeo competition in 1937. The man who started the Calgary Stampede, Guy Weadick, said that he was "the greatest bronc rider of them all". Wilf Carter also wrote a song about him called "King of the Cowboys".

25) Brian Laboucane

Brian Laboucane is a retired chuckwagon racer from St. Walburg, Saskatchewan. Laboucane retired in 2014, after 45 years of racing. In those 45 years he won 6 Canadian titles and over 80 show championships. Laboucane raced his last race during the Calgary Stampede (GMC Rangeland Derby). Although Laboucane retired as a result of the age retirement rules, he will always be a part of the chuckwagon community. His family members are following in his footsteps including: his son Jamie Laboucane and son-in-law BJ Carey.

26) Flores LaDue

Flores LaDue was a world renowned trick rider. She was born in Minnesota in 1881, and her real name was Grace Maud Bensel. She ran away to join a circus when she was 16 and changed her name to Flores LaDue. She was put into the spotlight in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show where she was trained by a famous trick roper named Vincenta Oropeza. After performing with Buffalo Bill's Show, she moved to another show where she met a young man named Guy Weadick. He fell in love with her the moment he saw her. Two weeks later Flores and Guy were married! They travelled and performed together and were part of the first ever Calgary Stampede. She is sometimes called "First Lady of the Stampede."

27) George Lane

George Lane was born on in 1856 in Boonville, Iowa. He followed his father to the goldfields of Montana at the age of 16. In his twenties, he became an apprentice in the ranching industry in Montana. He moved to what is now Alberta in 1884. George was a skilled rancher and also became known for his leadership skills with other cowboys and ranchers. In 1902, he and some other men bought the Bar U Ranch. While George was successful with cattle, he was a smart man who saw the eventual need for horses on the range. He felt that the strong and durable Percheron horse would be useful for plowing land. George travelled to France and brought back prize winning examples of these horses. The Bar U's Percheron's were used as show horses and won many competitions in Western Canada and the United States. George, Patrick Burns, Archibald J. Maclean and A.E. Cross (the Big Four) helped put up money in 1912 to hold the first Calgary Stampede.

28) Lloyd Errington Lee

This lifelong horticulturalist devoted his time to his orchard -- budding, grafting and crossbreeding to improve on varieties of apples, saskatoons, chokecherries, and other fruit trees and shrubs. His pink flowering Mayday tree 'Ethel' is approved and registered with the Brooklyn Botanical Garden in New York. His interest in horticulture didn't start there, however. As early as 1936, Mr. Lee grew and sold various bedding plants. In the 1950s and 1960s, he grew gladiolus on a three-acre plot and also developed a unique pink lily.

29) Mary MacIsaac

Mary MacIsaac was devoted to improving life in rural Alberta. She served as the Superintendent of the Alberta Women's Institute (AWI) from 1915-1921. Her accomplishments as Superintendent included improving services for child welfare, home nursing and household sciences. By 1919, Mary had created hundreds of lectures and courses to educate people. She also worked hard to create a Canada-wide women's group to support positive changes to communities, known as the Federate Women's Institute of Canada.

30) Archie McLean, One of the "Big 4" Ranchers

Archibald (Archie) James McLean was born in Ontario in 1860. When he was 21, he travelled west and started a farming and livestock business. Five years later he took a job as a ranch hand on the CY Ranch near Taber. He soon became the ranch manager and then part owner. In 1909, Archie was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for Lethbridge. He served as Provincial Secretary, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Minister of Public Works. He is credited with helping to set up Alberta's highway system and the establishment of irrigation districts. In 1921, he decided to return to cattle ranching. Archie McLean was a member of the Big Four, along with Patrick Burns, George Lane and A.E. Cross. They each contributed \$25,000 to start the Calgary Stampede in 1912. Archie McLean died in 1933 at Fort Macleod aged 73. His funeral was one of the largest ever seen in southern Alberta at the time. His portrait hangs in the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame and there is a small lake and a bridge in southern Alberta named after him.

31) Dr. Mohyuddin Mirza

Dr. Mirza is an accomplished and visionary scientist whose practical research has invaluable impacted the greenhouse industry in Alberta. Recognized as a pioneer in introducing hydroponics production to greenhouse crops, this educator, mentor, researcher, writer and problem solver has played a pivotal role in building the greenhouse industry. Dr. Mirza has received numerous awards. As a founding member of the Alberta Greenhouse Growers Association and adjunct professor at the University of Alberta, Dr. Mirza has been credited with inspiring new entrants into the industry. In the 1980's he helped introduce soilless crop production, an innovation that helped built the industry.

32) Charles Noble

Charles Noble was born in Indiana and settled in Alberta in 1903. He was a life-long farmer who led the way in large scale, dry land farming. He invented a minimum disturbance cultivator called the Noble blade (or Noble plow). It cuts weed roots beneath the soil surface without turning the soil over, thus reducing topsoil loss due to wind erosion. The village of Nobleford, Alberta is named after him.

33) Marilyn Lebsack Onofrychuk

Marilyn was raised in Vulcan, Alberta. Her father won the title of World Flax Champion, as well as World Wheat Champion several times. This inspired Marilyn to follow in his footsteps. She began showing wheat in junior classes at Calgary and Lethbridge fairs. While farming 2,000 acres of land near Vulcan with her husband, Richard, Marilyn was the first woman to win the World Wheat Championship at the 1973 Royal Winter Fair in Toronto. She worked on her winning grain, hard red spring wheat, for four or five hours a day, five days a week for three weeks before she decided on her 10-pound sample. In 1975, Marilyn won the World Wheat Championship again, and was named Wheat Queen.

34) Tona Ohama

Tona Ohama moved to Southern Alberta with his family from British Columbia in 1942. He began a potato farm in Rainier with little to draw on, but his memories of planting potatoes as a young boy. He had a modest start with 35 acres, but within a few years he was farming 850 acres and employing 15 people year round. His company, Golden Top grew to be a top, award winning producer in the potato industry selling potatoes all across North America. This feat won Mr. Ohama the title, Potato King.

35) Beatrice Parlby

Beatrice Parlby devoted over 60 years of service to community and farm organizations in Alberta. In her early years she taught school at Milo, Taber and Lacombe. She was a 4-H public speaking competition judge, a C.G.I.T. leader and a Girl Guide captain. As president of the United Farm Women of Alberta at Alix, she was instrumental in the restoration of the UFA hall library. She was a life member of Women of Unifarm and also maintained a campsite on her farm at Alix for Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

36) Anne Porozni

Anne Svekia Porozni was the daughter of Romanian immigrants. She married John Porozni in 1926 and together they worked the family farm he inherited. Anne did every kind of job on the farm. In spite of economic woes during the Great Depression, the couple tried new machinery, products, and ideas to improve their herds, grain yields, and farming practice. Their farm was named a Master farm in 1951.

37) Stanley Alan Price

Operating from Acme, Alberta, Stan Price pioneered the development of modern hog production practices with its emphasis on superior genetics, innovations in breeding, and the need for national grading standards and value-added processing. Stan was founding president of the Canadian Pork Council and one of the founders of Pig Improvement Canada. He built an integrated family food company known as Sunterra.

38) Prince Edward Prince of Wales

Prince Edward was known as Edward VIII, and was the King of England for less than a year. He abdicated the throne in 1936 in order to marry American socialite Wallis Simpson. In 1919, he bought EP Ranch near

Pekisko Creek in the Alberta foothills. He owned it until 1962. It was dubbed 'The Royal Ranch' and covered 41 hectares. His Majesty owned the ranch until 1962, and imported much breeding livestock from his farms in the U.K. The ranch was a symbol of the bond His Royal Highness shared with Canada and its people. It also serves as a historical site for ranching in the foothills of southern Alberta. He was known to mention that this was the only piece of property he had ever owned, and was proud to be a part of Alberta history.

39) V.C. (Lud) Prudek

Lud Prudek will long be remembered as the visionary who saw the need for the introduction and promotion of value-added alternative crops in Alberta and Western Canada. He was instrumental in developing the dry bean industry in Alberta in the 1950's and co-founded the original Bow Island bean processing plant in 1968. Lud helped develop soft white spring wheat, pulse crops, sugar beets and potato sectors in Southern Alberta. He pioneered gated pipe irrigation, as well as salinity and seepage control through the transporting of water in pipelines. He was a sustainable farmer long before its practices became popular.

40) Edward (Jim) Shimbashi

Edward Shimbashi will be most remembered for his dedication to the mechanization of the potato industry in southern Alberta. During the Depression, Jim and his father grew about 25 acres of potatoes in the Raymond area and marketed them locally and throughout Western Canada. He introduced the first potato harvester and piler, mechanical beet harvester and large scale product transportation. He revolutionized the vegetable and potato industry in southern Alberta.

41) Sam Steel, one of Canada's greatest horsemen

Samuel Steele was born in Ontario in 1849. His mother died when he was 11, and he was sent to boarding school. He spent his holidays with his cousins, who taught him to ride and shoot. When he was just 14, he joined the militia. In 1873, Sergeant Major Steele became one of the original members of the North-West Mounted Police. He was responsible for training the Mounties to ride before their March West across the prairies. He served at several posts, including Fort Saskatchewan and Calgary, before being put in charge of policing the construction of the railway. He founded Fort Steele in 1897. From 1898 to 1899, he was in charge of the "B" Division at Dawson, NWT, during the gold rush. During the South African (Boer) War of 1899-1902, Steele commanded Lord Strathcona's Horse. He died in England in 1919.

42) Harry Strom

As Minister of Agriculture and Premier of Alberta, Harry Strom made significant advances in Alberta's agricultural industry. He had a 54-year-history of activity in Alberta's farm community. During his six years as Minister of Agriculture, he was responsible for passing the Soil Conservation Act, the Crop Insurance Act and establishing the Alberta Agricultural Research Trust. He was a key figure in several water conservation and land management organizations when irrigation was becoming an important issue in Alberta. It was largely due to Mr. Strom's efforts that the federal-provincial irrigation agreement was signed in 1973.

43) Kathleen Taylor

Kathleen Taylor from Wainwright took an active part in many organizations locally, provincially and nationally. She was twice a delegate to world conferences of associated country women of the world and was active in organizations such as Red Cross, consumers associations and various educational committees. She served the Wainwright area as a member of Town Council and on hospital and library boards.

44) Phillip Thomas "Mr Canola"

Phil Thomas is not only the original "Mr. Canola." He is also a combination of educator, radio commentator, author, researcher, advisor, and life-long learner. A prolific author, his works include the *Canola Growers Manual* and the landmark *Alberta Rapeseed Home Study Course*. When the fields of summer are painted the colour of canola, it's a good time to remember his work and contributions to Alberta.

45) Dr. John Toogood

Dr. John Toogood never forgot the Dirty Thirties when he watched his father's farm soil blow into the ditches like snow. He combined his love of the land and passion for teaching to become one of the most prominent soil scientists in North America. Dr. Toogood spent 30 years at the University of Alberta Soil Sciences department working tirelessly to improve agricultural production through research into soil testing, erosion control, and agrometeorology. His water erosion research was the first of its kind in Alberta.

46) Isobel Townsend

Out of compassion for the hard-working farm women, Mrs. Townsend conceived the idea of a farm women's rest week. After approaching leaders of farm organizations and writing a letter to the Minister of the Department of Agriculture, Mrs. Townsend saw her dream of a rest week become a reality in July 1930. She created Alberta Women's Week, which gave women across the province an opportunity to learn, meet new people and relax. Throughout her life, Mrs. Townsend put emphasis on the value of people, and dedicated her time and energy to helping them.

47) Luke Tournier

Luke Tournier was born in Duck Lake, Saskatchewan in 1963. He started chuckwagon driving in 1988, and he started outriding the same year. He is a two-time champion (2005 and 2007) at the Stampede. In 2003, he was named the Chuckwagon Person of the Year. He is the owner of five horses named WPCA's Equine Outfit of Excellence. His legacy continues. He is the father of outrider Quaid Tournier, father-in-law to fellow driver Logan Gorst, and older brother to former competitor Leo Tournier.

48) Milton Ward

Milton Ward was a pioneer and an energetic leader in the cooperative movement. He organized a cooperative oil pool at Arrowwood which eventually developed into the United Farmers of Alberta Cooperative Association. He was instrumental in gaining public support for the creation of the Alberta Wheat Pool in the 1920's, and was an original contract signer and delegate with the Pool. He also served as a Councillor and Reeve in the Municipal District of Marquis for 26 years.

49) John Ware

John Ware was a cowboy and rancher. He was born in 1845 in Georgetown, South Carolina. He grew up as a slave on a cotton farm in Texas. After the civil war in 1865 he was freed. He is most well-known for his strength and skill when it comes to ranching. He is also known as a talented horse trainer. In 1882, he was hired to move 3000 cattle from the United States to Bar U Ranch in Alberta. He stayed in Alberta and started his own ranch in 1890. In the spring of 1902, his ranch was destroyed by a large flood. The area where he rebuilt his ranch house is now known as Ware Creek. It is near the Red Deer River. Many places in Alberta are named after John Ware including Mount Ware, Ware Creek, John Ware Junior High School in Calgary, John Ware Ridge, and the John Ware Building. He died in an accident while riding his horse. He was 60 years old.

50) Guy Weadick

Guy Weadick was born in Rochester, New York in 1885. He was captivated by the cowboy lifestyle and moved west to learn cowboy skills by working on farms and ranches. He was an exceptionally talented salesman and promoter of vaudeville shows. Guy continued to promote Wild West shows until he helped to create and establish the first Calgary Stampede in 1912. He decided that the cowboy lifestyle was too embellished, and made out to be too 'fake' by the Wild West and vaudeville shows. Instead, he decided to give people who visited the Calgary Stampede a true experience of what it *really* meant to be a cowboy. He spent most of his time in the United States, recruiting and advertising for the Calgary Stampede, in order to help make it the greatest outdoor show on earth.