



# Safer farms build safer communities

Giving communities peace of mind by building trust and sharing access to necessary tools and knowledge.

The Canadian Agricultural Safety Association is the Canadian delivery partner of the Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health center and the National Farm Medicine Center's Rural Firefighters Delivering Agriculture Safety and Health (RF-DASH) program.

## What is RF-DASH Canada?

The RF-DASH Canada program brings together first responders and rural firefighters with one common goal: improve farmers' access to vital health and safety information and reduce injuries and fatalities on Canadian farms.

Bringing together rural firefighters and first responders with farmers is a natural pairing. Rural firefighters in many instances are also farmers and understand the working environment and hazards on the farm. RF-DASH Canada aims to train firefighters and first responders (RF-DASH Canada Reps) to work with farmers to identify farm hazards, map out hazards and resources, and develop Emergency Response Plans. RF-DASH Canada benefits farmers, firefighters and first responders by reducing injuries and preparing safer and faster response in the event of any emergency.

## A new program

CASA has already trained six master trainers in the inaugural training session held in Manitoba (2 AB, 1 SK, 1 MB, 1 ON, 1 QC). As the RF-DASH Canada program expands, the goal is to have these master trainers train RF-DASH Canada Reps to deliver the program on farms and ranches across the country.

RF-DASH Canada Reps will receive training in the five modules of the RF-DASH program, including information on agricultural emergencies, farm mapping to assist, prepare and protect emergency responders, farm hazard analysis, farm first aid, and approaching and developing relationships with farm communities.

Once RF-DASH Canada Reps are trained, they will in turn reach out to their communities and farmers within their districts and deliver the program to producers on farms and ranches across Canada.

## How can you be involved?

This is an opportunity for members of your fire department to be trained in RF-DASH Canada and be leaders in agricultural safety in your community. For more information, please contact CASA at 1-877-452-2272 or email [info@casa-acsa.ca](mailto:info@casa-acsa.ca).

