

SWIFT CURRENT, SK. DECEMBER 2018 – A strategic merger has been finalized between two leading Canadian agri-business and agri-food recruiting firms. Grasslands Group of Companies Inc. and AgStep Agriculture Recruiting have created a fortified alliance - further solidifying their national market position as the Canadian agri-business/agri-food recruitment specialists. AgStep has representation nationally in Canada in agri-business recruitment, and Grasslands specializes in mid-to-senior level agri-business recruitment in Western Canada.

Mike Bachner, President at AgStep Agriculture Recruiting, has more than 22 years' experience in agri-food industry recruiting primarily within Eastern Canada. He joins Blair Clark, President at Grasslands Group of Companies, in merging their two companies – combining their expertise into almost 50 years of service in the Canadian agricultural recruitment sector. Operating under the Grasslands Recruitment Specialists banner, this alliance of two veterans in the industry, along with their strong recruitment teams, will continue to provide successful talent-acquisition services for Canadian agricultural companies seeking to hire high-calibre individuals in senior management, general management, finance, operations, sales and marketing, and related science disciplines.

As both firms have complementary business practices and clients, the partners recognize that this alliance fortifies their organizations by pooling their resources and experience to drive the business forward and expand their services into new areas, building on each other's strengths and networks.

Canadian agri-business leaders can leverage proven processes to acquire talent for their organizations as this alliance will continue to offer industry support within the following key sectors, among others:

- Animal/Livestock
- Agronomy/Seed
- Equipment & Manufacturing
- Finance/Business
- Grain/Food Processing
- Livestock/Farm
- Resource Management
- Vegetable/Fruit

Both partners will jointly and strategically guide the business while continuing to recruit skilled individuals within the agri-business industry for their clients. They will also lead the rest of the team as they continue to provide quality service to their clients while actively growing the business.

"Combining our teams across Canada enables us to manage our growth efficiently while maintaining our focus on providing recruitment services to all our clients" says Blair. He adds that he's looking forward to combining the strengths of these two highly successful businesses. "We are excited to see how the 'new' Grasslands opens up additional opportunities for us to expand our reach beyond our current scope and continue to provide excellent services to our industry clients" says Mike, echoing the sense of anticipation this alliance brings.

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