



**RURAL ONTARIO  
INSTITUTE**

Vision, Voice and Leadership



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program (AALP) Applications Due March 11**

**(GUELPH, ON)** The March 11, 2011 deadline for applications to Class 14 of the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program (AALP) is fast approaching. Current and emerging leaders who wish to apply for this fast paced and worthwhile leadership development program are encouraged to call (519) 826-4204 or visit the AALP website at [www.aalp.on.ca](http://www.aalp.on.ca) for more information and to get an application kit.

AALP is delivered by the Rural Ontario Institute (ROI). "We are looking across the province for primary producers, agri-business and agri-service employees, food processors, wholesalers and retailers, bankers, educators, marketers and journalists who want to enhance their leadership skills, gain perspectives on critical issues and broaden their knowledge of the national and international forces affecting the agriculture, agri-food and rural sectors," says Rob Black, chief executive officer of ROI.

Established in 1984, AALP is an executive leadership and personal development program for men and women in all sectors of Ontario's agriculture and food industry who aspire to help shape the future of Ontario's agriculture, agri-food and rural sectors. 98% of AALP graduates say that the program has made them better leaders. Their skills are being applied at all levels of the agri-food industry and are contributing significant economic returns to their businesses, organizations and communities, at the local, regional and provincial levels and beyond.

The 48 day program is delivered over the course of 19 months, creating learning opportunities that combine instruction and practical application, distance education, international travel, and dialogue with each other as well as with today's business, government, industry and community leaders. Graduates use their increased skills and knowledge of the entire agri-food system to work with others to lead, direct and manage change. They are recognized for their courage and confidence to move forward, building stronger agriculture and rural communities within the province and beyond.

With the deadline for applications in mid March, the next class begins in late September 2011 and participants will graduate in March 2013. For more information contact the ROI office at (519) 826-4204.

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