

Rural Futures

Mobilizing Knowledge and Sustaining Partnerships at the University of Guelph

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Rural Research at the University of Guelph

"Since its origins as an agricultural college, the University of Guelph has devoted its attention to studying and serving rural communities."

- 199 rural-focused research faculty
- 15 rural related graduate programs
- acclaimed as "Canada's Food University"

Engagement with Rural Partners

Interviews were held with rural Ontario partners to assess the challenges and opportunities of connecting university knowledge with partners.

Main Take Aways:

- Rural knowledge is often delayed and disconnected from reaching its intended audience.
- General desire for easily digestible knowledge and innovative collaboration between rural partners.
- University knowledge is disseminated, but rarely recognized and celebrated.

The Initiative

The objective is to ensure rural knowledge and experiences within the university are translated and mobilized to rural partners.

A portal will be developed to serve as pathfinder to connect rural partners to rural researchers.

The Initiative is funded through the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance and will continue through Spring 2024.

Inventory of Recent UofG Rural Research

- Over 9,800 research outputs generated from 2010-2021.
- 5,112 were selected to be included in the website.
- Scan the QR code to discover research at the University of Guelph.

Next Steps

- Develop a rural research 'pathfinder' website
- Create rural researcher profiles
- Continue discussions with rural partners
- Continue rural research knowledge sharing

