

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies awards scholarships annually, to help students continue their education in the agricultural industry. We are showcasing what some of our past scholarship recipients are doing now and how being part of Ag Societies have impacted their lives.

# KIMBERLY ZAGAR

### **Which Ag Society are you from**

Drayton Valley & District Agricultural Society

### **What Scholarship did you receive**

AAAS Scholarship

### **When did you receive your scholarship 2004**

### **What did you study?**

Bachelor of Arts, Agricultural Studies (concentration in Rural Sociology and Development), University of Lethbridge

### **When did you graduate ?**

2008

### **What career path did you take ?**

After graduating university, I worked on Parliament Hill in Ottawa before returning to Alberta to work in local government. I then spent some time traveling, which led me to my career in agricultural events. I worked for two years in the Cattle Show Office at the Sydney Royal Easter in Australia and two years in the Agriculture Show Office at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. When I once again returned to Alberta, I started working for Northlands.

### **What job/ career do you have now ?**

I work for Explore Edmonton as the Agriculture Specialist, Community & Signature Events, planning events such as Farmfair International and the agriculture components at K-Days.

### **Where has your job taken you?**

I have been lucky enough to have worked for world class agriculture events in Sydney, Toronto, and Edmonton. Agriculture people are the best people, the world over, and meeting and connecting with them is definitely a highlight.



### **How has being part of the Ag Societies impacted you ?**

My passion for agriculture events started volunteering for local ag society events like the bench fair, livestock show, and county fair. I still refer back to those memories when planning events today. Although the events may be much different in scale, the purpose is the same- to celebrate achievement in agriculture and rural communities, to bring people together, and to educate the public about agriculture and rural life.

### **What piece of advice would you give to students considering a career in Agriculture ?**

Agriculture is so much more than primary production. It is a dynamic industry that almost anyone can find a role in- whether your passion is plants, animals, machinery, science, sales, education, or events. I encourage anyone wanting to get involved in agriculture but not sure how to research the many parts of the industry and find the best fit for them. Also, be open to change. I started my career hoping to be involved in government agricultural policy but pivoted to events when I realized that is where my passions lay.

**If you have been awarded an AAAS Scholarship in the past and would like to share your story, please email us at [info@albertaagsocieties.ca](mailto:info@albertaagsocieties.ca)**

## AWARD NOMINATIONS & SUBMISSIONS



### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

#### AAAS SCHOLARSHIPS

Nominate a student who has demonstrated leadership!  
The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies have SIX Scholarship awards that will be given to outstanding post-secondary students continuing their education, who have volunteered their time and energy to their communities and agricultural societies. Please consider individuals in your community who could benefit from receiving this award. Applicants must be nominated by their local Agricultural Society. Each Applicant would be nominated by their Agricultural Society.

**NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS—Deadline December 1, 2022.**