

“There’s a lot that people take for granted in rural communities. When you’re young, you just want to break free and explore the world around you. But when you go and do that, you learn just how special rural Ontario is. With its tranquility, unbelievable beauty and natural sense of community, it’s impossible to beat.”



ALANNA

Dairy Farmer, Conlee Farms

Opportunities in agriculture

24-year-old Alanna left her family farm in Listowel to attend the University of Toronto. While working towards her degree double majoring in political sciences and environmental studies (with a minor in human geography to boot!), she realized that she “looked at everything with a food lens.”

After graduating, Alanna decided that her ideal career was back where she had started: at her family farm. “There’s no better feeling than taking care of the animals and crops and knowing that at the end of the day, they are taken care of in the best way possible. My work feels so meaningful,” she smiles.

Thinking of a career in agriculture? Not thinking of a career in agriculture? Either way, Alanna highly recommends it.

“There is an expansive network of professionals required in agriculture such as IT, bankers, lawyers, engineers, trades people, etc. There’s so much opportunity in ag right now— especially with the baby boomers nearing retirement. Don’t pigeon hole yourself – take opportunities in agriculture. It’s a complex and vast field with so many different options. Keep your doors open.”

Due to the area’s available vets, builders, robots, and resources, it’s a great place to have a farm and it was an easy choice for Alanna to come back home to pursue her dream.

“Not only is Perth County beautiful, safe and affordable but there are a lot of amenities close by and it really has everything that you need. People come from all over the world to visit this area. I feel so privileged to call Perth County home.” ■

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