

Agriculture for Life  
32 Priddis Creek Drive  
Foothills, AB T0L 1W2

*For Immediate Release*

- NEWS RELEASE -

### **Ag for Life Appoints New Board of Governors**

(Calgary, Alberta) – Agriculture for Life (Ag for Life) is pleased to announce the appointment of Hon. Ted Menzies as the new Chair of the Board of Governors. Mr. Menzies' appointment as Chair follows three years as a board member with Ag for Life. Mr. Menzies will be Chairing a diverse and dynamic group of leaders including newly appointed executive board members: Ben Graham, Vice Chair and Bill Whitelaw, Treasurer.

CEO, Luree Williamson conveyed, "These esteemed professionals bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the organization and will continue to play integral roles in driving Ag for Life's initiatives, expanding our reach, strengthening our partnerships and advancing our mission."

With former Chair Doug Beever's term concluded, he will remain a serving member of the board. "It was a pleasure to be the Chair of such a great group of board members and of an organization led by a wonderful CEO," says Beever. "I look forward to continuing to serve on the board of this exciting organization."

"Doug has been indispensable in not only conceptualizing Ag for Life, but also with his sage advice and solid leadership for 11 years as our organization continued to grow," says CEO, Luree Williamson. "As he steps down from the Chair position, I would like to thank him for his enduring and vital contributions to advancing agriculture education and farm safety in Alberta."

**Hon. Ted Menzies** - Chair, Ag for Life  
*Retired Politician, Farmer, CEO*

During a lengthy career in primary production of grains, pulse crops and oilseeds, Mr. Menzies played an active role in policy development in agricultural as well as international trade through various commodity organizations. Some of his involvement included President of the Western Canadian Wheat Growers, founding member and Vice President of Grain Growers of Canada, President of the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance and director on many other boards and committees.

Mr. Menzies was first elected in 2004, as the Member of Parliament for the Southern Alberta federal riding of Macleod. In 2006 he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Trade as well as to the Minister for the Canadian International Development Agency and later Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance in 2007.

In January 2011 he was sworn into the Queen's Privy Council of Canada as Minister of State for Finance. Mr. Menzies retired from federal politics at the end of 2013, becoming President and CEO of

CropLife Canada representing Canada's plant science and biotech industry as well as a member of Crop Protection Strategy Council of CropLife International, until retiring in 2017.

**Ben Graham** - Vice Chair, Ag for Life  
*President, AdFarm*

Ben Graham is the President for AdFarm, Canada's largest full-service marketing and communications company, focused entirely on agriculture, food and rural issues. As President, Mr. Graham works closely with AdFarmers and AdFarm clients across North America. In his 20-plus years with the company, those clients have included Nutrien, Bayer, BASF, Alberta Beef Producers, the Canola Council of Canada, Dow AgroSciences, UFA and many more. Ben is a proud fourth generation farmer and was raised on his family's farm near Vulcan, Alberta.

**Bill Whitelaw**- Treasurer, Ag for Life  
*Managing Director, Strategy and Sustainability, geoLOGIC systems ltd. and JWN Energy*

As Managing Director, Strategy and Sustainability, Mr. Whitelaw leads the development and deployment of geoLOGIC systems Ltd. and JWN Energy's sustainability strategy, with a key focus on ESG data and tools, domestically and globally. Mr. Whitelaw is a director on many industry sector boards including the Canadian Society for Unconventional Resources and the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame. He speaks frequently on the subjects of social licence, innovation and technology, energy and agriculture.

Ag for Life's current Board of Directors include Doug Beever, Glenn Bingley, Stuart Cullum, Ben Graham, Glenn Logan, Hon. Ted Menzies, Rich Smith, Judy Unterschultz, Stephen Vandervalk, Bill Whitelaw, Jim Wood.

-30-

## **About Ag for Life**

Ag for Life (Agriculture for Life) has the mandate to deliver educational programming designed to improve rural and farm safety while building public understanding around the agricultural industry. Ag for Life is made possible through the funding and commitment of companies that employ almost 20,000 people in more than 350 Alberta communities. Founding Members include AdFarm, Glacier FarmMedia, Nutrien, Rocky Mountain Equipment and UFA Co-operative Limited. Find out more at [agricultureforlife.ca](http://agricultureforlife.ca).

## **For more information or to arrange interviews, contact:**

Irena Ceko, Communications Specialist  
[Iceko@agricultureforlife.ca](mailto:Iceko@agricultureforlife.ca)  
250-826-6398