



**January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**News Release**

Tracy Gardner, ORE Event Manager describes "The legacy that Summer Synergy has delivered is incredible. We've had youth go on and gain access to domestic and international scholarship opportunities to elite fields such as veterinary medicine, financial investment, communications and agribusiness. We've had others directly involved in mentoring programs with industry leaders in commercial/retail pharmaceutical and livestock nutrition. This is the synergistic nature of the program where youth are able to showcase their exceptional skills while networking with industry to secure future opportunities and relationships."

Because of the brilliant auction ideas from the Senior Synergy marketing participants and the generous buyer's contributions from the 2013, 2014 and 2015 fundraising auctions, the Synergy **Setting Sails** program has flourished! Young industry leaders like Kaylie Kryz, Jade Marshall, Cassidy Matthews and Tessa Nybo have experienced Oklahoma Youth Expo. This initiative assures that talented, dedicated and hardworking youth are rewarded with profound experiences that reinforce their outstanding leadership, communication and agriculture advocacy. This year nine of Synergy's finest intermediates and seniors aged 12 – 20 including Halley Adams, Cole Dodgson, Kayla Jones, Delanie Knoll, Riley Pashulka, Cayley Peltzer, Jourdynn Sammons, Heidi Tymko and Jess Verstappen applied for domestic and international destinations that deliver premium youth programming.

Their applications dynamically described their personal agriculture story, what difference they can make in industry, where would they go to impact change and influence, if they could meet anyone and where is their first choice travel destination. Two astute programming partners evaluated the applications: Rob Smith, Canadian Angus Association CEO offered his thoughtful insight and business acumen and Donna Smith, ORE Director shared her passion for youth development and competitive excellence.

Our 2016 **Setting Sails** recipients are: Halley Adams of Forestburg, Cole Dodgson of Sangudo, Cayley Peltzer of Rosemary and Jourdynn Sammons of Gleichen who will proudly be representing Summer Synergy at the Oklahoma Youth Expo March 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>.

Summer Synergy truly is the platform to promote evolution and transformation within the agriculture sector through the generation that will drive the industry in the future. For more information check out [www.summersynergy.ca](http://www.summersynergy.ca) ~ July 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Olds, AB