

Matthew Sterling

2020 4-H Canada Leadership Excellence Award of Distinction Recipient, Science & Technology

Matthew Sterling has grown up on his family farm in Chatham-Kent, ON. His family has been involved in 4-H for many years, and he was very excited to become a 4-H member at the age of nine.

During Matthew's years in 4-H, he has completed multiple projects in a variety of interests and held executive positions as President, Vice President and Press Reporter. In the past three years, he has been a 4-H Youth Leader with the Gardening Club and the Farm Toy Club, which has allowed him to share his knowledge and enthusiasm for 4-H with other members.

Matthew's 4-H experience inspired him to become an active volunteer in his high school and community, assisting with numerous food drives, school leadership activities, theatre productions, and local events. He enjoys participating in many extracurricular activities, including training in karate and competitive plowing. His other interests include creating farm toy and model train displays, woodworking, 3D printing, working on the family farm, and robotics.

An active member of the FIRST Robotics Team for the past four years, Matthew has had the opportunity to design and build industry-size robots. He is excited to combine his passion for agriculture and robotics while attending Conestoga College in Cambridge, ON in the fall of 2020 in the Mechanical Engineering Technology - Robotics and Automation Program.

Matthew's goal is to contribute to the future of Canadian agriculture through technology and innovation.

L.E.A.D. Perspective

"I have always been intrigued by how things work. On our farm, I have been able to work with auto-steer and precision planting technology. I have taken a keen interest in precision ag technologies. I developed an economical auto boom height system for a sprayer that uses sensors to measure the distance between the booms and the ground to keep a consistent height. My goal is to contribute to the future of Canadian agriculture by increasing sustainability through technology and innovation, while making a positive impact on the lives of others through 4-H leadership and robotics mentorship."

