

# 2016 International Legislators Forum

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## Biography

### **Dr. Anita Brule-Babel**

Department of Plant Science  
University of Manitoba  
66 Dafoe Rd.  
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2

O: (204) 474-6062

[Anita\\_BruleBabel@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Anita_BruleBabel@umanitoba.ca)

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Dr. Anita Brûlé-Babel is a professor in the Department of Plant Science at the University of Manitoba working in the area of wheat breeding and genetics.

She grew up on a mixed farm near Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and received her B.S.A and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Saskatchewan. She has been with the University of Manitoba since 1987 and teaches courses in plant breeding, quantitative genetics, and urban agriculture. She has trained numerous undergraduate and graduate students in the area of plant breeding and genetics. Many of these students are now working in industry or government positions as plant breeders or associate plant breeders. Her winter wheat breeding program focuses on the development of high yield, disease resistant winter wheat cultivars that are adapted to the eastern prairies.

Anita has conducted research in a number of areas, including inheritance of leaf spot and Fusarium head blight (FHB) resistance in wheat, and the inheritance of herbicide resistance in weeds such as wild oat, green foxtail and wild mustard. She is involved in both national and international collaborations working on FHB in wheat and is responsible for coordinating a large FHB screening nursery in Carman, Manitoba that generates data for all wheat breeders in western Canada. Her group is mapping FHB resistance genes in hexaploid wheat to be used as a selection tool for breeders.

She has also published research assessing the potential for gene flow among genetically engineered and non-genetically engineered crops and has made numerous public presentations on the issues associated with genetic engineering.