

Minnesota Wheat Council and Growers is an industry collaboration between the Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council (MWRPC) and the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers (MAWG). We are committed to working in a unified, focused, and effective manner to improve the profitability of the Minnesota wheat industry. From research and educational programs to lobbying in Washington, our mission is to build programs that have long-lasting impact for our MN Wheat growers. Learn more about us at www.smallgrains.org.

We're hiring an Executive Director to be the principal administrator of both the MWRPC and MAWG. In this leadership role, you will be focused on working in collaboration with both Boards on defining short and long-term strategy. In addition, effectively implementing determined initiatives and programs from both groups. This highly-varied role encompasses building consensus among each Board, working closely with the Universities on research, leading grower educational meetings, as well as working closely to understand grower concerns. This is a hands-on leadership role where you are not leading behind a desk, but rather making connections and executing programs across the state.

Our office and team of six is located in northern Minnesota in Red Lake Falls. This role would require a relocation to the area. We offer a highly competitive compensation based on experience along with a benefits package.

Our Ideal Candidate Brings a passion for the agriculture industry with proven ability to lead with a rolled-up sleeves approach. Looking for a candidate that can build relationships and leverage resources to develop impactful initiatives for our 1.5 million-acre large Minnesota wheat industry.

About our Associations

Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council is directed by a nine-member board of directors made up of wheat producers elected by wheat producers. Our focus is to improve methods of production. It is a check-off program where all growers contribute a mandatory 2 cent/bushel assessment on wheat produced. The program funds wheat breeding, production research, market development, and industry outreach. We also work in collaboration with the MAWG on producer education and communications.

Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers is a non-profit trade association directed by a seven-member board of directors' who are wheat producers selected by members of MAWG. We focus on providing programs and activities related to advocacy, education and communication. We are funded by voluntary membership dues and education and project-based programs. We are also a member of the National Association of Wheat Growers and employs a lobbyist in St. Paul.

General Responsibilities

- Simultaneously meet the leadership, managerial, budgetary, and communication expectations of two distinct entities – the MWRPC and the MAWG;
- Serve as a primary spokesperson for the Minnesota wheat industry, in a way that promotes and enhances the industry's strength and standing;
- Recruit, retain, and manage high quality and effective MWRPC and MAWG staff;
- Maintain close contact with producers at the "grass roots" level, through such activities as frequent attendance at county and regional MAWG meetings and events;

- Remain up-to-date and well-versed in the public policy issues and government programs relevant to the wheat industry.
- Ensure that program commitments, financial standards, and legal and ethical requirements are met;
- Ensure close cooperation between the MWRPC and agencies of the State of Minnesota, including the Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, other regional universities and partners;
- Maintain effective working relationships with U.S. Wheat Associates, other state wheat commissions and other organizations and entities that work to advance wheat;
- Ensure that public policy issues affecting wheat producers are effectively monitored and addressed in Washington, D.C., St. Paul, Minnesota, and elsewhere as necessary;
- Maintain and strengthen the MAWG's effectiveness and financial position by seeking to increase grower involvement and revenue through programs and projects with its partners and to increase the number of grower members.
- Work with other grower and industry organizations to build mutually beneficial relationships in order to increase the effectiveness of each organization;

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree highly preferred
- Proven demonstrated leadership developing effective programs and building consensus with cross-functional teams
- A record of success as a dynamic, creative, and visionary leader who can set objectives, motivate, collaborate, attain consensus, and manage performance to achieve results.
- Genuine commitment to work with Minnesota wheat producers at the "grass roots" level, as well as partners in the broader wheat industry, government and university officials, allied organizations, and the general public.
- Prior experience in budgeting and staff management
- Willingness to travel routinely, including some weekends as well as work extended hours during peak times of the year

Interested persons should send a cover letter, resume, and three references (electronic submissions preferred) to AgHires contact info lori@aghires.com