

Maidah Khaliq is a Masters student at the University of Alberta, under Dr. Heather Bruce's supervision. Her project is titled: "Relationship between beef quality grade and collagen biochemistry". She completed an undergraduate degree in food science and technology from Arid Agriculture University, Pakistan. Her research focuses on the role of collagen protein and mature cross-linking in beef toughness and their relationship with intramuscular fat regarding beef tenderness. Results from this project will help Canadian beef grading and branding system based upon muscle composition. Recently she was awarded with the travel award for 69th Reciprocal Meat Conference (RMC) being held in USA, where she entered the graduate student's poster competition. Meat Science has a great impact on her career goals as she plans to increase her professional knowledge and experience by working in the Canadian beef industry. Meat Science provides the understanding of how intramuscular heat stable collagen cross-link forms during the life of an animal and will give indication as to how animal production practices can reduce the contribution of connective tissue to beef toughness. This knowledge will help beef industry to substantiate carcass value, which will ultimately result in higher profit to the beef industry.



Maidah Khaliq is the 2016 recipient of the **CMSA-CMC Volunteers ICoMST Travel Award**.