



# NEWS RELEASE

---

## “The Voice of Manitoba Farmers”

203-1700 Ellice Ave. ~ Winnipeg MB ~ R3H 0B1

ph: (204) 697-1140 ~ fax: (204) 697-1109

[kap@kap.mb.ca](mailto:kap@kap.mb.ca) ~ [www.kap.mb.ca](http://www.kap.mb.ca)

### **For immediate release**

February 9, 2009

## AgriInvest Must Work For Farmers

**Winnipeg** – Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) is encouraged by the federal government’s announcement on contributions under AgriInvest, a new program under the Growing Forward policy framework.

KAP supports the need for the program and believes the government’s move to waive the deposit requirement for 2007 AgriInvest will have a positive effect on producers, many of whom face immense challenges heading into the next crop year.

“It is important that this program is set up properly so that it works for farmers and does what it was intended to do,” said Ian Wishart, KAP President. “Once the program is up and running it will definitely help producers determine an appropriate level of risk management for their operations.”

KAP notes that the system must be ready for 2008 and beyond so farmers can move forward to put proper AgriInvest accounts in place.

“We hope the federal and provincial governments, banks and credit unions can work together to have the system in place for the 2008 contribution year, by July the latest,” said Wishart.

Producers can access more information about AgriInvest through the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada website [www.agr.gc.ca](http://www.agr.gc.ca) or by calling toll free 1-866-367-8506.

- 30 -

### **For more information, please contact:**

Ian Wishart, KAP President. Cell: (204) 856-6964.

Kristen Lucyshyn, KAP Communications. Office: (204) 697-1140. Cell: (204) 792-2661.

Keystone Agricultural Producers is Manitoba’s largest general farm policy organization, representing over 7,000 farm families and 22 commodity groups throughout the province. Our strength is our democratic structure, and our mission is to represent and promote the interests of the province’s farm families.