



The KAP Alert

Prairie Farm Leaders Outline Priorities *News Release April 17, 2009*

The three major farm organizations representing farmers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta emerged from a forum on Friday with a renewed focus on the issues facing Prairie agriculture. Their discussions were framed around the Canada Grain Act, the livestock industry, the environment, inputs, and transportation.



Above photo (left to right): Greg Marshall (APAS), Ian Wishart (KAP), Humphrey Banack (WRAP).

Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP), the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS), and Wild Rose Agricultural

Notice: *The KAP Alert was not published on Friday due to technical difficulties. We apologize for any inconvenience.*

Activities for the previous two weeks

Monday, April 6: The Management Team met at the KAP office. Communications Officer Kristen Lucyshyn attended an Ag in the City wrap-up meeting.

Tuesday, April 7: President Ian Wishart attended the Manitoba Pork Council Annual Meeting and Dinner. VP Rob Brunel, Communications Officer Kristen Lucyshyn, and members of the Young Farmers Committee met with MASC in Portage. Rob Brunel participated in a CFA Grains and Oilseeds Committee conference call.

Wednesday, April 8: Executive

Producers (WRAP) identified two major priorities, and developed an action plan to move these issues forward in the coming year.

Addressing Issues Concerning the Canada Grain Act

The farm groups believe that issues surrounding the Canada Grain Act must be addressed to ensure the act will be effective for producers, in particular the producer payment security mechanism and inward inspection and weighing.



The current bonding system protects a producer's grain delivery to an elevator and ensures that he or she will be paid. This is critical protection for producers and there must be no gaps until an effective replacement is put in place. The groups will continue to convey the urgency of this issue to federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz and their provincial Agriculture Ministers.

Assistance for the Livestock Industry

The leaders of WRAP, APAS, and KAP emphasized their support for much needed assistance for the livestock industry, and recognized the need to call on the federal government to develop—in consultation with farm groups and provincial governments—a long-term strategy to ensure the financial viability of the Canadian livestock industry.



Member Doug Chorney spoke at the Keystone Potato Producers Association Spring Production Meeting in Portage. VP Robert McLean, District 3 Board Member Reg Dyck, and Policy Analyst James Battershill participated in a conference call regarding the Volume-Related Composite Price Index. President Ian Wishart was the guest speaker at the Manitoba Forage and Grassland Strategic Workshop in Portage. VP Robert McLean spoke at the Manitoba Chicken Producers Annual General Meeting.

Thursday, April 9: KAP's General Council met in Portage.

Week Two

Wednesday, April 15: President Ian Wishart attended the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) International Symposium. Executive Member Glenn Young participated in a CFA conference call on AgriFlex.

Wednesday to Thursday: GM Yvonne Rideout attended The Co-operators Annual Meeting in Moncton, NB.

Thursday, April 16: President Ian Wishart and Policy Analyst

The organizations remain committed to working together to speak for Prairie farmers with a strong voice. The next meeting of the leaders will take place in Regina in October.

KAP Concerned for Flooded Manitobans *News Release April 16, 2009*

Farmland, buildings, and homes are being affected by flooding throughout southern Manitoba and other parts of the province, and Keystone Agricultural Producers would like to extend our thoughts and best wishes to producers and their neighbours through this trying time.

"We want producers to know we are thinking about them and that we are here for them. If our office can be of any assistance, please give us a call," said Ian Wishart, KAP President.

KAP reminds producers to keep track of flood damage as there are programs that will deal with flood compensation.

"If they have damage, we can help get them in touch with the appropriate agencies," said Wishart. "We hope the flood goes by quickly with good weather to follow so producers can get their operations back to normal as soon as possible."

KAP encourages producers to reference the flood resources provided on the Government of Manitoba [website](#) or to call 1-866-MANITOBA (1-866-626-4862) for information. Producers can also access information from their local GO Office. The Manitoba Farm and Rural Stress Line is a good resource for confidential support and counseling to those going through a difficult time. The website is available at www.ruralstress.ca and the toll-free number is 1-866-

James Battershill met with Manitoba Conservation regarding on site wastewater management. President Ian Wishart met with the Dairy Farmers of Manitoba Board of Directors.

Friday, April 17: President Ian Wishart and GM Yvonne Rideout met with APAS President Greg Marshall and WRAP President Humphrey Banack for the Prairie Farm Leaders meeting at the KAP office. Policy Analyst James Battershill met with Jeff Clark from the Manitoba Pork Council.

Sunday, April 19: President Ian Wishart toured the flooded areas around Morris, MB.

Other Events

April 21: Manitoba Conservation Districts Information Day, Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB. Email mca@mts.net.

April 22: Farmers' Market Informational Meeting, Kin Centre, Pilot Mound, MB. Contact MAFRI at 825-3512 to register.

June 2-3: Trace R&D 2009, a conference on agriculture and

367-3276.

General Council Sets Policy to Move Forward

News Release April 13, 2009

Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) delegates from across the province met in Portage la Prairie on April 9 to learn more about emerging issues in agriculture, and to set direction for the organization. The following resolutions were passed, and are now KAP policy:

Inward Inspection & Weighing

THAT KAP, in the event that the current inward inspection and weighing is eliminated, lobby the federal government for the inward inspection and weighing to be done by companies accredited and audited by the Canadian Grain Commission and that the service be optional.

Nutrient Management

THAT KAP support the use of the 4R nutrient management system (Right Product @ Right Rate, Right Time, Right Place®) as the foundation for nutrient management protocols in Manitoba.

Agricultural Flexibility

THAT KAP encourage all levels of government to use the Agricultural Flexibility Program dollars to provide a province wide ALUS-type program for Manitoba.

Changes to BRM Programming

THAT KAP lobby the federal and provincial governments for

food traceability, Fairmont Hotel, Winnipeg, MB. [Website](#).

June 17-19: Western Canada Farm Progress Show, Evraz Place, Regina, SK. [Website](#)

Provincial Land Use Policies Review

The province is updating its land-use policies and is seeking input from the public. Workshops will be held around the province. Consultation materials including the draft policies are available by clicking here. To provide feedback, email plups@gov.mb.ca.

Consultations will take place between April 20 to May 7. Land-use policies are expected to be finalized in the fall of 2009.

Schedule

The following is a schedule of public workshops in regions throughout Manitoba:

April 20: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Gilbert Plains Community Centre (Curling Hall), 101 Complex Drive.

April 21: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Shoal Lake Community

changes to the existing business risk management programs to counteract the effects on producers for events beyond their control, such as BSE, COOL, etc.

Farm Inputs Price Index (FIPI)

THAT KAP lobby the federal government to integrate the farm inputs price index (FIPI) into the reference margin calculation for the AgriStability program to better reflect the realities in the primary agricultural industry.

Cash Advance Program

THAT KAP lobby the federal government to increase the producer cash advance program from \$100,000 to \$150,000 for the interest free portion and an increase in the total cash advance from \$400,000 to \$500,000.

Elevator Demolition

THAT KAP lobby governments to use every means at their disposal to prevent the demolition of grain elevators and sidings for the future public good.

Elevator Demolition

THAT KAP lobby Viterra to be a good corporate citizen and tender the sale of unused elevators to interested parties.

Liability Risks Associated with Trespassers

THAT KAP lobby the Provincial government to evaluate and improve the regulations and legislation that govern the liability of agricultural producers when trespassers are injured on their property.

MASC AgrilInsurance

THAT KAP lobby the provincial government to have KAP-appointed farmer based representatives on the MASC Board of Directors with

Hall, 315 The Drive.

April 22: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Souris Glenwood Memorial Complex (Kirkup Lounge), 32 - 3rd Avenue West.

April 23: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Carman United Place Hall, 134 - 1st Street SW.

April 27: 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Norwood Hotel (Promenade Room A), 112 Marion, Winnipeg.

April 30: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Thompson Regional Community Centre (Mary Fenske Boardroom) / C.A. Nesbitt Arena.

May 4: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Fraserwood Hall (new hall).

May 7: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Brokenhead River Community Hall, 320 Veterans Lane, Beausejour.

To reserve your spot at a public workshop call 945-2150 or [email](#).

Interested parties are also encouraged to share their views and suggestions on the draft of the proposed Provincial Land Use Policies by forwarding written comments to the

all members subject to a maximum term.

Reseeding Claims - MASC

THAT KAP ask Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) to expedite reseeding claims for back and overland flooding on winter annual and perennial crops.

Delegates heard from guest speakers Elwin Hermanson, Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Grain Commission and Harvey Harland, Board Member of the Manitoba Cattle Enhancement Council.

Hermanson presented on Bill C-13, The Canada Grain Act. He reviewed the role of the Canadian Grain Commission and its operations. He also talked about how the CGC inspects grain, as there has been a lot of debate over the issue. He noted the current situation regarding Bill C-13. Harland presented on current issues and activities of the council. He covered the need to develop slaughter facilities in the province and the investment in Keystone Processors Ltd. Thank you to all delegates and special guests who attended.



KAP's next General Council is scheduled for Thursday, July 9, 2009 at the Victoria Inn in Brandon.

New Staff

Meet KAP's new Business Receptionist! KAP is pleased to announce Christine Yankoski joined the KAP team on April 6, 2009.

address, fax or email below by May 8, 2009.

Provincial Land Use Policies
Review
Community Planning and
Development Division
Manitoba Intergovernmental
Affairs
604 - 800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4
Fax: (204) 945-5059
E-mail: PLUPS@gov.mb.ca

Manitoba Farm Mentorship Program

The Organic Food Council of Manitoba has just launched the Manitoba Farm Mentorship program (MFM)!

This is an exciting new program designed to connect people, land and local knowledge for a food-secure Manitoba.

There are still spaces available for this year for farmers looking to diversify or transition to an environmentally sustainable form of agriculture. MFM wants to connect you with a mentor to help you along the way. For more information please call 785-8828 or check out the [website](#).

KAP In Net News



She looks forward to working with KAP members and can be contacted at 697-1140. **Welcome Christine!**

Member Benefits Corner

Spring is coming, and with it unfortunately the spring rush of accidents can occur. Do you have insurance to protect you and your family over the summer season, such as in-province ambulance coverage and



travel coverage for short travel trips or family vacations out of province or into the U.S.? A professional medical second opinion if you or a member of your family was diagnosed with a critical illness?

KAP has a very economical Core Plan through The Co-operators. This plan starts at \$126/year for a single person under age 50. The

[KAP Ready To Help Flooded Farms](#)

[Prairie Farm Leaders Meet](#)

[Prairie Priorities](#)

[KAP likes government action](#)

[Interlake's 2008 soaking earns more aid funds](#)

plan is a guaranteed issue and does not have any medical questions. Simply apply and you will receive the following coverage:

- While out of the province, the program provides 100% emergency worldwide travel coverage with multiple trips and any one trip being a maximum of 30 days.
- While in the province, the program provides 100% coverage for ambulance (ground and air) as well as semi-private hospital coverage.
- While anywhere in the world, your family has access to the world services of Best Doctors, which is affiliated with Harvard Medical School. [Click here](#) for information on this program.

Members are eligible for coverage until age 70, provided coverage is taken out prior to age 65. Examples of prices, for ages 50 to 59, for both smokers and non-smokers is: Single (\$132/year), Couples (\$231/year) and Family (\$276/year). Just the cost of one ambulance ride can pay for the core plan for 10 years!

For more information [click here](#), or to enroll, simply [click here](#) and complete the form.

For all other Member Benefits [click here](#), call 1-866-527-0123 or [email](#).

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