



# The KAP Alert

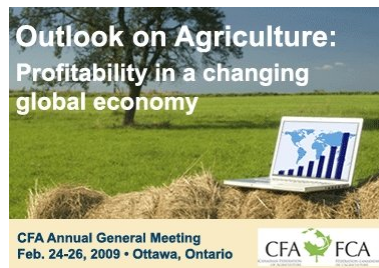
February 27, 2009

## Manitoba's Voice Heard at CFA

Keystone Agricultural Producers officials returned from the Canadian Federation of Agriculture annual meeting in Ottawa with positive results for Manitoba producers.

KAP delegates brought forward a number of resolutions at the meeting, held February 24 to 26. The resolutions deal with issues such as developing an action plan for a sustainable livestock industry, compensation for completing on-farm food safety procedures, and assistance for Interlake producers who are facing challenges due to excess moisture in 2008.

During the meeting, President Ian Wishart (below) had the opportunity to express the importance of the Interlake



## Expense Claims Due

KAP Annual Meeting delegates have until **TODAY, February 27, 2009** to send their expense claims to the KAP office. Please email or fax your claim asap.

[finance@kap.mb.ca](mailto:finance@kap.mb.ca)

Fax: 697-1109

## KAP Activities



### Monday, Feb. 23:

Monday to Thursday - KAP's Delegates participated in the Canadian Federation of Agriculture annual meeting in Ottawa. Delegates included President Ian Wishart, Vice President Robert McLean, Vice President Rob Brunel, Sean Gryba (District 11), Keith Gardner (District 7), Weldon Newton (District 9), Chuck Fossay (District 6), Theresa Bergsma (Special Crops/Vegetable), Don Dewar (District 11), Dan Penner (Supply

situation to Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz. Michael Ignatieff, Leader of the Official Opposition, also spoke at the meeting on challenges and opportunities for agriculture.

“It was a productive and positive meeting, and we had some excellent discussions with the farm leaders from across the country,” said Ian Wishart, KAP President. “We are encouraged our ideas were well received, and we look forward to working with the CFA’s other provincial and commodity farm organizations on these critical producer issues.”

The CFA delegates passed each of KAP’s 14 resolutions. The resolutions related to issues including: Country of Origin Labeling (COOL), usage of the Port of Churchill, Transport Canada’s Discontinuance Process, Affordable Internet Service, Input Prices, the Railway Revenue Cap and the Western Grains Research Foundation, Own Use Importation (OUI), Crown Land Pasture Rates, and National Environmental Goods and Services Programming.

“When we bring our agricultural issues to the CFA we are gaining attention and awareness in the national agriculture debate, and ensuring our voice is heard,” said Wishart.

For more information about the CFA annual meeting, please go to [www.cfa-fca.ca](http://www.cfa-fca.ca).

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***KAP congratulates the CFA's new President, Laurent Pellerin, 1st Vice President, Ron Bonnett, and 2nd Vice President, Garnett Etsell. We look forward to working with the CFA on important agricultural issues.***

Managed), Chris Kletke (District 3), General Manager Yvonne Rideout, and Policy Analyst James Battershill.

## Other Events

**February 27 - 28:** Direct Farm Marketing Conference, Royal Oak Inn, Brandon, MB. [Website](#)

**March 10 – 12:** Canola Council of Canada Convention, Sheraton Centre, Toronto, ON. [Website](#)

## Growing Forward Information Sessions

Information sessions on the new suite of Business Risk Management Programs, including AgriInvest and AgriStability, are being held in Manitoba. Representatives will also be available to meet with producers individually for one-on-one consultations. Representatives will answer questions from producers about AgriInvest and AgriStability, and provide tips for completing the 2008 harmonized form. Locations and dates for Business Risk Management Program Information Sessions and individual appointments are listed below and can also be found by [clicking here](#).

### Information Sessions:

**Teulon:** March 16, 7:00pm - 9:00pm  
Rockwood Centennial Centre

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## Changes to the Canadian Grain Commission: Bill C-13 Introduced

This week legislation to amend the Canada Grain Act was introduced. Key components of the bill include clarifying the CGC's mandate, elimination of inward inspection and inward weighing, elimination of the producer payment security program (bonding), and improving enforcement measures. The previous Bill C-39 dealing with the same changes was introduced in 2007, but it died on the Order Paper upon the call of the federal election in 2008.



"We have been working in cooperation with Wild Rose Agricultural Producers (Alberta), Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, and several commodity specific organizations to look at alternatives to bonding," said KAP Vice President, Rob Brunel. "This project is funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Private Sector Risk Management Program and we have engaged Scott Wolfe Management as the consulting firm to carry out the work."

This week there were questions related to the timing of Bill C-13 and if the analysis would be completed. Brunel says

**Portage La Prairie:** March 16, 7:00pm - 9:00pm CanadInn

**Beausejour:** March 18, 7:00pm - 9:00pm Sun-Gro Centre

**Steinbach:** March 19, 7:00pm - 9:00pm Steinbach Bible College

**Brandon:** March 19, 7:00pm - 9:00pm Royal Oak Inn

**Ashern:** March 23, 7:00pm - 9:00pm Royal Canadian Legion

**Dauphin:** March 25, 7:00pm - 9:00pm Dauphin Recreation Complex

**Pilot Mound:** March 31, 7:00pm - 9:00pm Legion Hall

**Carman:** April 1, 7:00pm - 9:00pm Community Hall

**NEW!** Please take a look at the first edition of the National Centre for Livestock and the Environment [Newsletter](#), a bi-monthly feature!

### Headlines in this Jan/Feb edition:

\*NCLE Research: Looking at the big picture - the whole is more than the sum of its parts

\*Current Projects

\*Feature Project: What are grasslands really worth?

\*Feature: Our graduate students are on the move

[CLICK for the newsletter](#)

there was also the question about whether options for producers would be put in place prior to bonding being repealed.

“Yesterday, Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz spoke at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture’s Annual Meeting in Ottawa, and I took the opportunity to ask the Minister this critical question,” said Brunel. “Minister Ritz responded that they will keep the current program in place until we have other options. This was certainly good news for the groups involved, and we will continue to monitor what is happening with the bill.”



The KAP General Council is scheduled for April 9, 2009, at Canad Inns in Portage la Prairie, and will feature a presentation from the Canadian Grain Commission on changes to the Canada Grain Act. Please watch the KAP Alert for further details about the meeting.

Above right: KAP Vice President Rob Brunel

## Member Benefits

It pays to be a KAP member! We are pleased to offer a comprehensive benefits program to our members in addition to the ongoing policy work that we do on your behalf. For more information, please call our Member Benefits line at 1-866-527-0123.

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