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The KAP Alert



April 1, 2010

Moving Bioenergy Forward

Commentary by Ian Wishart, KAP President

Manitoba farmers could become major players in the energy marketplace with the right programs. No, that doesn't mean finding oil under the farm—though that never hurts. It means tapping into markets for the energy products we already produce.

As farmers we are really just managing the landscape to use the sun, water and nutrient inputs to collect carbon in one form or another. These carbon chains can be used to create energy in many forms such as ethanol, biodiesel, biomass or biogas. Working examples of this abound across the world and also include wind and direct solar collection.


Policies to create incentives to use more biomass or biogas at home or on the farm would be a good start. Using biomass as a source of heat for our long



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KAP

Membership

You may now pay your membership by credit card on the KAP website using .

Looking for your EFP

Certificate?

If you are a producer who has misplaced your Environmental Farm Plan Statement of Completion and you need another copy, please contact Christine at KAP at 697-1140 or kap@kap.mb.ca.

Activities

cold winters in community or public service situations would create viable business opportunities. Producing biogas from livestock wastes would be a big positive from the public perspective. Even some farm inputs like nitrogen based fertilizers could be replaced by local energy sources. To begin to move in this direction, we must rethink buying our energy inputs from traditional sources. We must also get access to outside energy-hungry markets either by selling electricity into the export grid, biomass for heat, or biofuels. Even hydrogen could become a key product for sale.

It's going to take time to develop some of these market opportunities, but some are available right now. We must start looking at our role, work on getting new policy in place and make things happen.



Farmers to Gather at General Council

Advisory April 1, 2010

Keystone Agricultural Producers is holding its General Council on Thursday, April 8 in Portage la Prairie. This meeting is one of KAP's major policy setting events with delegates from across the province in attendance to debate resolutions and receive updates on important agricultural issues.

WHAT: KAP General Council Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, April 8, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Canad Inns, Portage la Prairie

A full agenda is planned with KAP's committees providing updates on their recent activities covering a wide range of issues affecting farmers and rural communities.

Monday, March 29:

President Ian Wishart, Livestock Committee Chair George Matheson, and Policy Analyst James Battershill attended a Technical Review Committee Meeting at the KAP office.

Tuesday, March 30:

President Ian Wishart and Executive Member Glenn Young attended the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's Business Risk Management Committee meeting in Ottawa.

Wednesday, March

31: President Ian Wishart participated in a Farmers of North America Grain Cost of Production Database conference call.

Events

To April 3: Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB.

All producers, observers, and media are welcome to attend.

Prairie Farm Leaders to Meet in Winnipeg

Advisory March 31, 2010

The presidents of the three major farm groups across the Prairies will meet in Winnipeg on Friday, April 9 to talk about the top priorities in agriculture.

Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) President Ian Wishart, Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) President Greg Marshall, and Wild Rose Agricultural Producers (WRAP) President Humphrey Banack



will discuss and endeavor to reach consensus on important issues such as young and beginning farmers, carbon offsets, rail transportation, and other shared priorities.

The leaders will be available after 1:00 p.m. on April 9 for media interviews about the meeting and how the groups will continue to work together on behalf of their members. If you would like to set up an interview time (phone or in person), please contact communications@kap.mb.ca.

CFA Photo Contest and Awards

Website

April 8: KAP General Council, Canad Inns Portage la Prairie.

April 16-18: Equine Educational Weekend Horse3 (Head*Heart*Hooves), Keystone Centre, Brandon. [Website](#)

June 16 - 18: Western Canada Farm Progress Show, Evraz Place, Regina, SK. [Website](#)

Join the [Canadian Federation of Agriculture](#) in celebrating its 75th anniversary by taking part in the [CFA's Photo Contest: The face of farming](#) OR by submitting an entry for the [CFA Agricultural Awards](#).



CFA Photo Contest

Deadline: September 10, 2010

Criteria: Photos which depict farming or portraits of farmers are welcome. This may include landscape photos, portraits of children, and much more. As long as the photo shows technical excellence, originality, and artistic creativity, while reflecting the theme, it may be selected as a winner in the contest. The contest is open to Canadian residents, age 15 or older as of the day of submission. [MORE DETAILS](#)



CFA Agricultural Awards

Deadline: September 10, 2010

[Agricultural Awareness and Education](#)

To be presented to one of the CFA's 22 member organizations or member of a member organization which features a



particularly outstanding campaign or other educational vehicle aimed at increasing the public's agricultural awareness and education.

Environmental Stewardship

This award will be given to the member organization or individual member of a member organization that has demonstrated a variety of environmentally conscious business practices or policies.



Youth Leadership

This is to be presented to an individual farmer (a member of a member organization), 25 years of age or younger who has contributed to the agriculture industry.



[MORE DETAILS HERE](#)

An advertisement for a book titled "Unity in Agriculture: Twenty-five Years as the Voice of Manitoba Farmers". The ad features a blue background with a white text box. The text includes the title, a description of the book's content, and the price. A photograph of the book cover is shown on the right side of the ad. The book cover features a collage of agricultural images, including a cow, a sunflower, and a field. The price is listed as "Only \$25".

BUY IT TODAY!

UNITY IN AGRICULTURE
Twenty-five Years as the Voice of Manitoba Farmers

Own a piece of Manitoba's agricultural history! KAP's book provides a great way to commemorate a milestone in the history of the policy organization built by and for Manitoba farmers.

Call 697-1140 Only **\$25**

This Week's KAP Minute

The KAP Minute is news for and about farmers from
Keystone Agricultural Producers.

 [LISTEN HERE!](#)

Tune in to the KAP Minute every Thursday on 3 stations in
Manitoba!

CFAM
Radio 950

CFAM Radio 950 Community Service
Radio in Altona
[Listen](#) at 12:56 p.m.

CFRY
920 AM 93.1 FM

CFRY 920AM and 93.1FM Real Country
Radio in Portage La Prairie
[Listen](#) at 12:48 p.m.

CKLQ
880

880 CKLQ Today's Best Country in
Brandon
[Listen](#) at 12:28 p.m.

2010 Spring Road Restrictions

Please be advised that the 2010 Spring Road Restrictions will be implemented in:

**Zone 1 effective 6:00 a.m. Thursday, March 18, 2010; and
Zone 2 effective 6:00 a.m. Thursday, March 25, 2010.**

Spring road restrictions in both zones will be concluded May 31, 2010.

For information regarding Spring Road Restrictions go to www.gov.mb.ca/mit/srr or call the Road Information Line at (204)945-3704 or 1-877-627-6237. Please check regularly for updates. To speak to a Permit Agent, please call Permit Services at (204)945-3961 or toll free at 1-877-812-0009.

Member Benefits Corner

Critical Illness Insurance Provides Financial Stability at a Time When YOU Need it Most

Critical Illness Insurance is designed to give those suffering from a serious illness financial stability at a time when they need to focus on their recovery, and not on how to make ends meet.

It pays a tax-free one-time lump sum benefit that can be used any way the insured person wishes. And, unlike disability insurance, it is not dependent on the insured person's ability or inability to work, or



whether or not a full recovery is made.

Critical Illness Insurance is an excellent solution for farmers and other self-employed individuals. Benefits are not based on income, nor are receipts required for pay out to take place. For those who don't have access to long-term disability or other income protection insurance, Critical Illness Insurance can be a financial lifesaver at a time when it is needed most.

The KAP Critical Illness Plan covers the following 16 illnesses:

ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease)
Coma
Heart Attack
Multiple Sclerosis
Blindness
Coronary Surgery
Kidney Failure
Organ Transplant
Brain tumour
Deafness
Loss of Speech
Paralysis
Cancer
Dismemberment
Major Burns
Stroke

Under the **KAP Critical Illness Insurance Plan**, members under the age of 65 can apply for up to \$150,000 of coverage in units of \$25,000. The benefit is paid upon diagnosis of one of the 16 covered conditions. The insured person can pay down debt, supplement for lost income, make a lifestyle change, pay for medical treatment at a private facility or private nursing or can spend their tax-free lump sum benefit however they feel with

no restrictions.

For more information call KAP Benefits at 1-866-527-0123 or email

kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca.

Acklands-Grainger Spring Promotions

For savings on your
Welding Supplies,
see the new Acklands
Grainger **welding**



line-up! And for their new Spring 2010 Specials **click here**. Remember to use your KAP discount code - 253321

Benefits Reminder

Discount at Mark's Work Wearhouse

Mark's Work Wearhouse discount cards are being mailed out with the regular KAP mailings to members. Members can also cut out the coupon [click here](#) and print!. *(Note: one coupon must be printed for each sales transaction)*



Private Health Services Plan

Before the busy spring season starts, make sure your health coverage is in order. By using the KAP Private Health Services Plan (PHSP), you can reduce your health, dental, prescription drug and dental expenses. As an example, for a self-employed farmer or director of a farm corporation who is in a 35% personal tax bracket, the PHSP program can provide net savings of \$400 on \$1,000 of medical expenses. Call Karley at 1-866- 996-7477 to find out how a PHSP can help you and/or to receive an information package.

For information on any of our benefits programs, call our Member Benefits line at 1-866-527-0123, go to our website, or email us.

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