



The KAP Alert

February 26, 2010

Manitoba Farmers Bring Issues to Ottawa

Release February 25, 2010

Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) officials returned from the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's (CFA) annual meeting held February 22 to 24 in Ottawa with positive results for Manitoba producers.

KAP brought forward resolutions at the meeting which were then passed by CFA delegates. The resolutions covered issues such as beneficial management practices funding, drainage improvement, business risk management programming, bio-mass power generation, and World Trade Organization negotiations.

"There was support for the resolutions from across the country, and it's a good sign that we have many shared interests with other Canadian farmers," said Ian Wishart, KAP President. "It's satisfying that we are finding common ground to find solutions."

There were numerous resolutions raised at the meeting which related to Manitoba producers. Two hot topics included dealing with foreign workers and regulations for federal and provincial abattoirs.

 [Follow us on Twitter](#)

KAP Membership

Membership renewals for 2010 have been sent out and we encourage members to pay. You may now pay using a credit card on the KAP website using [**PayPal**](#).

Looking for your EFP

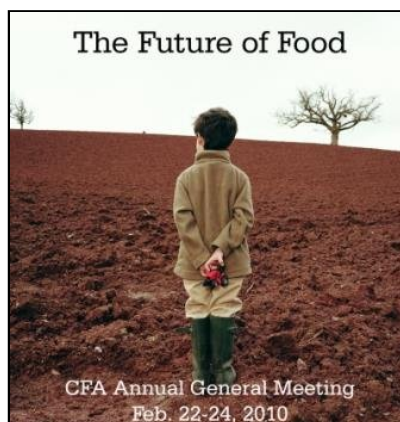
Certificate?
If you are a producer who has misplaced your Environmental Farm Plan Statement of Completion and you need another copy, please contact Christine at KAP at 697-1140 or kap@kap.mb.ca.

The theme of the CFA's 75th annual meeting was "The Future of Food." The response from members and observers on the development of a National Food Strategy was very positive and there was a lot of interest in the discussions.

KAP believes a united voice through the CFA allows all producers to work toward improving the agricultural sector.

"We are pleased to have had the opportunity to attend the meeting and work with the CFA to help create a better environment for all producers in Manitoba and Canada," said Wishart.

For more information about the CFA annual meeting, please go to www.cfa-fca.ca.



Activities



Activities

Monday, February 22:

President Ian Wishart, VP Rob Brunel, VP Doug Chorney, GM Yvonne Rideout, Executive Member Glen Franklin and Policy Analyst James Battershill attended the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's 75th Annual Meeting in Ottawa (Monday to Wednesday).

Thursday, February 25:

VP Doug Chorney attended the Canadian Agriculture Human Resources Council in Ottawa. Communications Officer Kristen Lucyshyn attended an Ag in the City planning meeting. President Ian Wishart, GM Yvonne Rideout and Policy Analyst James Battershill met with Hon. Bill Blaikie, Minister of


	<p>KAP will be at Agriculture in the City at The Forks Market, March 19-21, 2010 See you there!</p>	<p>CLICK for event info!</p>	
--	---	---	--

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**



Canadian Agricultural Safety Week
March 14 - 20, 2010

**CLICK
FOR
INFO**

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.

Conservation, to discuss onsite wastewater management, manure management, cosmetic pesticides, crop residue burning, predator control and environmental goods and services.

Friday, February 26:

GM Yvonne Rideout and Communications Officer Kristen Lucyshyn participated in a Canadian Agricultural Safety Week Launch Committee conference call. President Ian Wishart met with Hon. Christine Melnick, Minister of Water Stewardship. President Ian Wishart met with Graham Starmer, President of the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce. President Ian Wishart met with Rob Altemeyer, MLA for Wolseley.

Events



CFRY 920AM and 93.1FM Real Country
Radio in Portage La Prairie

[Listen](#) at 12:48 p.m.



880 CKLQ Today's Best Country in
Brandon

[Listen](#) at 12:28 p.m.

Manitoba Farm and Rural Stress Line
1-866-367-3276 www.ruralstress.ca



Member Benefits Corner

KAP Core Plan and PHSP make excellent combo for KAP members

The KAP **Core program**, underwritten by The Co-operators provides the following coverage for you, your family and even your employees.



Coverage to age 70, provided you enroll prior to age 65 includes:

- 100% **ambulance and semi-private hospital**
- Year-round **travel health** (30 days per-trip maximum, 90-day pre-existing conditions clause)
- Access to **Best Doctors** (Receive information on your condition from a team of Harvard-affiliated doctors, who conduct an

March 2: FCC Forum

- Big Ideas for your future, Victoria Inn, Winnipeg, MB. FCC Forums are an opportunity to learn, inspire big ideas and network with business owners and operators just like you. Keynote speakers include: Peter Mansbridge, Chantal Petitclerc, Chris Emery and Larry Finsson, the Clodhopper Guys. [Website](#)

March 4: Manitoba

Flax Growers Association annual meeting, Holland Community Centre, Holland, MB. Presenters include the Flax Council of Canada, Shape Foods, Richardson International and AAFC Morden. For more information please call 204-832-0935.

March 5: Manitoba

Farm Animal Council: Certified Livestock Transport (CLT) course, Victoria Inn, Brandon, MB. For

exhaustive analysis of your medical information)

- **Medical approval is not required**

Annual Rates:

Plan	Age	Single	Couple	Family
CORE PLAN (annual premiums)	< 50	\$126.00	\$219.00	\$261.00
	50 – 59	\$132.00	\$231.00	\$276.00
	60 – 69*	\$138.00	\$241.80	\$291.00

**Applicant must be in the program prior to age 65 to remain eligible to age 70.*

These annual premiums are also eligible for a business expenses.

Members can then use the **Private Health Services Plan (PHSP)**, for other medical expenses.

The PHSP is not an insurance program, but rather a special allowance in the Income Tax Act. Although most people still use the old Medical Expense Tax Credit program, the PHSP will always provide more savings as long as the person is paying income tax.

One of the key advantages of the PHSP is that, if you're not sure if you will be in a taxable position, claims for the PHSP can be left until tax preparation time of the following year. **As an example, the overall savings for a farmer in a 35% tax bracket would be almost \$400 on \$1,000 of expenses!**

If your farm is incorporated, directors can use the program to reimburse themselves for personal medical expenses. By this, the farm corporation can then fund the PHSP account, allowing the director to be personally reimbursed tax free!

more information, please [email](#) or visit the [website](#).

March 5 - 6: Manitoba Direct Farm Marketing Conference, Southern Manitoba Convention Centre, Manitoba Stampede grounds, Morris, MB. For more information, please [email](#) or visit the [website](#).

March 6: Manitoba Sheep Association annual general meeting, Herman Prior Centre, 40 Royal Rd. N., Portage la Prairie, MB. For more information please call 204-834-2261 or visit the [website](#).

March 8: CWB Farmer Forum, District 10: Bill Toews, McCreary Community Centre, McCreary, MB. For more information, please [email](#) or visit the [website](#).

March 10: Winter Cereals Canada/Winter Cereals Manitoba

This program can also be offered to farm employees as a valuable employee health benefit.

Because this is not an insurance product, there are no medical questions, pre-existing conditions, limitations, or age restrictions!

Also, if your spouse has a benefits program through off farm work, the co-insurance amount that is not covered by insurance, any expenses above plan maximums, as well as any deductibles or orthodontics not covered by an insurance program are eligible under the PHSP.

In addition, travel for medical appointments when over 40 km one-way is also an eligible expense at 50.5 cents/km, plus you may claim a flat rate of \$17 per meal, to a maximum of \$51 per day, per person, without receipts.

For more information, please call Karley Middleton at 1-866-996-7477 or email kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca.

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

By participating in these programs, KAP members provide further strength to KAP by improving its benefits programs for farmers.

annual meetings,
Heartland Inn, 851
Main St., Winkler, MB.
Call 1-866-472-4611
or [email](#).

March 11: CWB
Farmer Forum,
District 10: Bill Toews,
Oak Bluff Community
Centre, Oak Bluff,
MB. For more
information, please
[email](#) or visit the
[website](#).

March 12: Canadian
Organic Growers'
Record Keeping for
Organic Farmers
workshop, Arborg,
MB. [Website](#)

March 13: Canadian
Organic Growers'
Transitioning the
Small Produce Farm
workshop, Winnipeg,
MB. [Website](#)

March 16: CWB
Farmer Forum,
District 9: Bill
Nicholson, Shoal Lake
Community Hall,
Shoal Lake, MB. For
more information,
please [email](#) or visit
the [website](#).

March 18: Manitoba
Rural Adaptation
Council annual
general meeting,
Canad Inns, Portage
la Prairie, MB.
[Website](#)

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](#)

You're receiving this email from KAP to keep you updated on Manitoba's agricultural news & events. You may have contacted us directly to subscribe, opted in from our web site, or entered one of our draws.

[Unsubscribe](mailto:communications@kap.mb.ca) communications@kap.mb.ca from this list.

Our mailing address is:
Keystone Agricultural Producers
203-1700 Ellice Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0B1

[Add us to your address book](#)

Copyright (C) 2010 Keystone Agricultural Producers All rights reserved.

[Forward](#) this email to a friend
[Update your profile](#)