

Farm Inputs

The Committee met on March 19, 2009.

Fertilizer and Fuel Survey. KAP sent out a survey in the fall and there was concern over the small number of surveys received back from farmers. With only a dozen surveys sent in, the results could not be published. In an attempt to attract more participants, the committee decided to offer a prize draw for the spring survey and worked with STRATA to secure three prizes. KAP asks that all members of General Council fill out a survey and encourage their district members to do so as well. The deadline for submissions is April 17, 2009.

Farm Inputs Price Study List. Last fall, changes in the value of the Canadian dollar caused our study on various inputs to be irrelevant. The comparison of products was inconsistent and the study was not concluded. The committee is considering working on a simple pricing study on a short list of products.

Farm Inputs Board. This is ongoing policy and KAP would like to see something in place. The committee would like to see more work on the creation of the board which would allow farmers to have an avenue to express their concerns.

MARRC Oil Usage Tracking and Recycling. Keith Gardner, Walter Findlay, David Wray and others are participating in the tracking of their oil usage. There are questions on what will be done with the records on spillage and loss. It's important to get the message on oil recycling opportunities out to farmers and the committee will look into ways this can be accomplished. More information is available at: www.usedoilrecycling.com.

Mandate for 2009. The committee's activities will include following up on resolutions such as the Marked Fuel Tax Benefit, looking into the decrease in the federal tax on diesel, conducting studies and surveys to monitor input prices, and looking at concerns regarding dealers and stock as we continue through the current global economic situation.

Committee Members. Keith Gardner (Chair), Brian Van Mackelberg, Chuck Fossay, David Rolfe, David Wray, Doug Chorney, Eric McLean, Gary Tolton, Roger Desroches, Sean Gryba. Staff Resource: Kristen Lucyshyn.

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