



NEWS RELEASE

"The Voice of Manitoba Farmers"
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For immediate release

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KAP Sets Policy at General Council

Winnipeg – Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) delegates from across the province met in Portage la Prairie on October 14 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:

BUSINESS RISK MANAGEMENT

MASC and Hail Damaged Acres

THAT KAP lobby the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation to cover insured acres whether or not there is a subsequent loss due to flooding or other factors.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

Provincial and Municipal Drain Maintenance

THAT KAP lobby the Association of Manitoba Municipalities and the Manitoba Government to improve maintenance of provincial and municipal drains, including increased mowing.

Bipole III Safety Concerns

THAT KAP lobby Manitoba Hydro and the Government of Manitoba to engineer the Bipole III transmission line with maximum sag heights that are high enough to guarantee that agricultural equipment can be operated safely underneath them; further,

THAT KAP lobby Manitoba Hydro and the Government of Manitoba to develop and demonstrate their plan to monitor and correct problems associated with sag in the Bipole III transmission line and any other lines that cross agricultural land.

LIVESTOCK

Cattle Industry Support

THAT KAP lobby the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba to assist Canadian cattle producers suffering from the effects of excess moisture through a tax deferral for those forced to reduce or sell their herds, an extension on payment deadlines for cash advances, and a per head payment to help cover repeated annual losses.

Cattle Feed Freight Assistance Program

THAT KAP lobby the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba to help cattle producers deal with feed shortages caused by the excess moisture of 2010 with a feed sourcing assistance program.

Future of the Beef Cattle Industry

THAT KAP lobby the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba to develop a vision and strategy for the future of the beef cattle industry that is consistently financially viable for primary producers.

Future of the Livestock Industry in Canada

THAT KAP lobby the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba to work with industry to develop a vision and strategy for the future of the Canadian livestock industry.

OTHER**Federal/Provincial Cost Shared Program Administration**

THAT KAP lobby the Manitoba Government to ensure that when they are administering federal/provincial cost shared programs, Manitoba farmers are not disadvantaged relative to their Saskatchewan and Alberta counterparts.

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Keystone Agricultural Producers is Manitoba's largest general farm policy organization, representing over 7,000 farm families and 22 commodity groups throughout the province. Our strength is our democratic structure, and our mission is to represent and promote the interests of the province's farm families.