



The KAP Alert

October 30, 2009

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Markets a Priority for Agriculture Industry

Commentary by Ian Wishart, KAP President

Recent disturbances in markets of Canadian exports have been deeply troubling. Most recently we have seen the impact on canola markets from China's announcement that it intends to suspend purchases of whole canola seed until we can certify it free of certain weed seed and blackleg. It is probably unrealistic to expect this to happen.



This comes so soon after the flax market disruption from GMO markets, mustard market disruption due to rumor, and new tariffs on durum into Italy. Also the US mandatory country-of-origin labeling (COOL) impact on both the cattle and hog industries has us seriously worried about our export markets.

Canada, especially Western Canada, is very export dependant.

KAP Membership

Membership renewals for 2009 have been sent out and we encourage members to pre-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.

Activities

Monday and Tuesday: President Ian Wishart participated in the Prairie Farm Leaders meeting in Regina.

Huge surpluses in production beyond domestic needs make market access to growing economies a necessity. However, in today's protectionist trade climate, how can we protect ourselves from these technical trade barriers? Both WTO and NAFTA are supposed to protect us, but the long dispute settlement process makes it more like "shutting the barn door after the horses are gone" than any real dispute settlement process.

The federal government has already established the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Market Access Secretariat to help open new markets for red meats. Perhaps its mandate should include a "swat team" approach to these problems—but for certain a more aggressive response is required. Producers are easy victims to these types of trade actions that often appear from our end to be little more than market manipulation, which is not good news for us.

KAP Talks Land Use

News Release October 29, 2009

Land use and the importance of agriculture in Manitoba was the focus of a breakfast meeting for land use planners hosted in Brandon on October 29 by Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP).



Ian Wishart, President of KAP, Manitoba's largest general farm policy organization, delivered an important message from producers—that land use planning by municipalities needs to focus

Tuesday, October 27: District 10 Board Member Paul Gregory attended a Willow Creek Integrated Watershed Management Plan meeting in Fraserwood.

Wednesday, October 28: President Ian Wishart and GM Yvonne Rideout met with Don Norquay, Deputy Minister of Manitoba Water Stewardship to discuss drainage.

Thursday, October 29: President Ian Wishart met with land use planners in Brandon at a breakfast hosted by KAP to talk about the importance of agriculture. President Wishart presented on ALUS at the Manitoba Planning Conference in Brandon.

Friday, October 30: Policy Analyst James Battershill attended the Growing Forward Food Safety Program Cattle Steering Committee.

Events

November 1 - 3: Manitoba Farm Women's Conference, Winnipeg. [Website](#)

November 5 - 8: Manitoba Livestock Expo, Keystone Centre, Brandon. [Website](#)

on the importance of all industries, including agriculture.

Wishart's speech highlighted the fact that priority should be given to agricultural land uses since the industry is the backbone of many rural communities. He also stressed that land use planners must protect agriculture that exists today and also allow for future diversification.

"Any policy affecting agriculture needs to be based on the pillars of sustainability including economic, social, and environmental development," said Wishart. "And when it comes to environmental issues, we cannot stress enough that rural municipalities must access the proper expertise to make science-based decisions."

Wishart reminded attendees that there are numerous regulations in place to ensure that farmers follow a strict set of rules such as Nutrient Management Planning, the Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation, and the Provincial Land Use Policies also exist to serve as a guideline.

"We need a balanced approach to planning, including designation of areas where agriculture can operate and thrive," said Wishart. "Producers do not need policies that are restrictive or not firm enough to allow for transparency in the system."

Around 25 land use planners attended the KAP breakfast meeting held at the Keystone Centre.

Prairie Farm Leaders Meet in Regina

The three major farm



November 17 - 18: Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance convention, Winnipeg. [Website](#)

November 30, December 1 - 2: 2009 Manitoba Grazing School "On the Cutting Edge," Brandon, MB. [Website](#)

December 7: The 34th Manitoba Conservation Districts Association Convention and Tradeshow, Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB. Theme: "Our Environment: The Co\$t of Doing Nothing" with a kick off on Monday evening at the Tradeshow Reception. [Website](#)

January 19 - 21, 2010: Manitoba Ag Days, Keystone Centre, Brandon. [Website](#)

Reminder: Send in your Harvest Sample program envelopes!

Due to this year's delayed harvest, the Canadian Grain Commission is extending its deadline for the Harvest Sample program to **December 1, 2009**.

The Canadian Grain Commission's Harvest Sample program needs you to fill the postage-paid sample envelope (you may have received one in

organizations representing farmers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta emerged from a forum on October 27 with a renewed focus on the issues facing Prairie agriculture. Their discussions were framed around the AgriStability Program, transportation and international trade. *Photo left to right: Ian Wishart (KAP), Greg Marshall (APAS), and Humphrey Banack (WRAP).*

Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP), Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS), and Wild Rose Agricultural Producers (WRAP) identified major priorities and developed an action plan to move these issues forward in the coming year.

Addressing Issues Concerning the Canada Grain Act (Bill C-13)

The farm groups continue to stress that issues surrounding the Canada Grain Act must be addressed to ensure the act will be effective for producers, in particular the producer payment security mechanism and inward inspection and weighing. The current bonding system protects a producer's grain delivery to an elevator and ensures that he or she will be paid. This is critical protection for producers and there must be no gaps until an effective replacement is put in place. The groups will continue to convey the importance of this issue to federal decision makers and their provincial Agriculture Ministers.

Technical Trade Barriers

The leaders of APAS, KAP and WRAP emphasized their extreme concern about the action undertaken by China to block imports of Canadian canola, effective November 15. Farm groups are pleased that CFIA and AAFC officials have been quickly assigned to deal with the dispute. Given the importance of the Chinese market to Canadian canola producers, the Prairie Farm Leaders will be communicating to the Ministers of Agriculture and Trade to request high level involvement of the Canadian Government to resolve the matter in the interest of Canadian growers as soon as possible.

the mail) with grain from this year's crop, fill out information about the sample on each envelope, and mail the envelopes back to them.

The Canadian Grain Commission uses the samples to create information for the year's Harvest Survey and crop quality for the current year. Producer samples are also used to create composite samples to make Canadian Grain Commission tests more accurate.

For more information please call 1-800-853-6705.

Attention Canadian Organic Growers

The Organic Food Council of Manitoba and the Manitoba Farm Mentorship program invite you to attend the following three workshops:

November 16 & 17:

Understanding the New Organic Regime for Crop and Livestock Producers will be held in Brandon, MB as part of the Eastern Prairie Organic Trade Show from 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm at the Victoria Inn. You will learn about the new Organic Products Regulations,

Delisting and Producer Cars

The Prairie Farm Leaders discussed the recent notice by CN Rail to delist more than fifty Producer Car Loading Sites across the prairies. The issues of delisting should be addressed by the Service Review Panel in order to establish a framework to deal with producer cars. Delisting should not be ad hoc but subject to a rigorous process that protects the right to access to producer cars. APAS/KAP/WRAP call for a moratorium on any further delisting and dismantling of sites until the service review deals with the issue.

Cattle Price Insurance Program

The Farm Leaders also discussed the serious financial issues affecting the country's pork and beef industries. While research indicates that the price of meat to consumers has been maintained or even increased; the farmers share has continued to erode. A Cattle Price Insurance program that is being introduced in Alberta was reviewed in context of its applicability to other provinces.

The three farm organizations remain committed to working together to speak for Prairie farmers with a strong and united voice. APAS, KAP and WRAP are proud and active members of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and will address these and other regional issues within that forum as well.

The next meeting of the leaders will take place in Edmonton in January, 2010.

Farm Safety and Health Seminars

The Farm Safety and Health Seminar will help agricultural producers better manage safety and health risks on their farms.

recent changes to the Canadian Organic Standards and what these changes mean for your crop rotation. The November 17th afternoon workshop will focus on the same topics as they apply to livestock producers. Registration includes course binder.

November 16: Crop Planning for the Vegetable Grower will take place from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm in the Grandview Room (Room 534) at the University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus, Winnipeg. In this all-day workshop, experienced market gardener Daniel Brisebois will focus on how to create field and greenhouse planting schedules, how to order seeds so you can meet your financial goals and how to make and adapt your crop plan. An essential workshop for anyone thinking of starting or currently running a market garden! Workshop fee includes lunch and a coupon for a free copy of COG's book Crop Planning for the Organic Vegetable Grower.

Pre-registration is necessary. To register or for more information, please call 1-888-375-7383 or register online at the Canadian Organic Growers [website](#).

Member Benefits

[Full Agenda](#)

To register, please call Glen Blahey, Provincial Farm Safety Coordinator, at 1-800-282-8069 extension 2315 or email SafeFarms@gov.mb.ca.

Seminar Schedule:

November 4, 2009

Dauphin Recreation Complex

November 10, 2009

Pembina Threshermen's Museum, Morden

[Click for poster](#)



Hog Farm Transition Program

PRODUCERS: A hotline has been set up to provide assistance for the Hog Farm Transition Program at 1-888-368-4023. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern time.



Email: hftp@welchllp.com

Corner

Group RRSPs for KAP Members and your employees!

Through The Co-operators, Group RRSPs are available to KAP members and their employees. Contributions can be made by pre-authorized bank debits or payroll deductions.

The benefits of the program include: low internal fund fees (MER's) versus retail fees, there are no opening fees, no closing fees, no administration fees, no deferred sales fees, and no declining balance fees. These are all unique savings through a Group RRSP versus a regular RRSP.

Other important features include: no charge to transfer external investments into The Co-operators account, no need to accumulate large amounts to invest in term deposit accounts, web and phone access to your account 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the ability to transfer money between investments and change investment directions up to three times a year at no charge, and an extensive selection of market-based funds, fixed-rate investments, asset allocation funds, and retirement date funds to suit everyone's investment strategies.

Fax: 1-888-334-6618

PROGRAM INFO

KAP District Meeting Schedule

Please join us at these producer meetings to talk about what's important to YOUR operation! For more information, call the KAP office at 697-1140. All producers are welcome.



District 1 Annual Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009 7:30 p.m.

Mountview Centre

Deloraine, MB.

Guest Speaker: Daystar Financial on Farm Estate Planning

District 2 Annual Meeting

Monday, Nov. 9, 2009 7:30 p.m.

Mariapolis Friendship Club

Mariapolis, MB.

Guest Speaker: MAFRI on Growing Forward - Environment

District 3 Annual Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 12, 2009 1:30 p.m.

University of Manitoba Carman Facility

Carman, MB.

For more information on this program, please contact STRATA Benefits at 1-866-250-9743 or email

KAPretirement@stratabenefits.ca.

Benefits Reminder!

Farm Estate Planning Webinar

The KAP Benefits Farm Estate Planning Webinar will provide you with professional presentations by Meyers Norris Penny, Daystar Financial and The Wealth Planning Group.

You can enjoy this webinar in the comfort of your own home. There is no travelling and everyone can view the presentation on their own computer and hear the audio live from either your computer speakers or your telephone.

There is no cost to participate, register by calling 1-866-787-2826 or email

kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca.

Once registered you will receive information confirming the time and how you will be able to ask questions.

For more information on other benefit programs, please call our Member Benefits line at 1-866-527-0123, or go to our [website](#).

District 4 Annual Meeting

Friday, Nov. 13, 2009
1:00 p.m.

Level 2, Real Canadian
Superstore
Steinbach, MB.

Guest Speaker: David
Drozd, President, Ag-
Chieve Corporation.



District 5 Annual Meeting

Monday, Nov. 23, 2009 7:30 p.m.

Garson Community Hall
Garson, MB.

District 6 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2009 7:00 p.m.

Portage Fair Board Office
Portage la Prairie, MB.

District 7 Annual Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Kirkup Lounge, Souris Glenwood Memorial Complex
Souris, MB.

District 8 Annual Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009 7:30 p.m.

Binscarth Drop-In Centre
Binscarth, MB.

District 9 Annual Meeting

Monday, Nov. 16, 2009 7:30 p.m.

Minnedosa Ukrainian Hall
Minnedosa, MB.

District 10 Annual Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 26, 2009 7:30 p.m.
Arborg Senior Citizens Club
Arborg, MB.

District 11 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009 7:30 p.m.
Gilbert Plains Legion
Gilbert Plains, MB.

District 12 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009 12:30 p.m.
Westwood Inn
Swan River, MB.

Coming Winter 2010: The KAP History Book! Pre-Order Your Copy Today!

Twenty-five Years as the Voice of Manitoba Farmers

Own a piece of
Manitoba's
agricultural
history! KAP's
History Book
provides a
great way to
commemorate



a milestone in the history of the policy organization built by and for Manitoba farmers.

More than a collection of facts and photos, this book brings farm policy to life through the stories of KAP members and leaders spanning a quarter-century in our province.

Pre-Sales Offer: Pre-order this soft-cover book for \$25 (includes shipping).

****SPECIAL OFFER**** Manitoba producers are invited to list their name or farm name in the book as supporters of KAP. Include your name in KAP's History Book for \$75 (includes one copy of the book shipped straight to you).

KAP also welcomes ***corporate sponsors*** to partner with us as we present KAP's history.

Sponsorship Levels

\$2500+

Your company name will be featured on the acknowledgement page at the beginning of the book along with your company logo. Your company name will also appear at the back of the book on our sponsorship page.

\$1000 – \$2499

Your company name and small logo will appear on our sponsorship page at the back of the book.

\$500 – \$999

Your company name will be acknowledged on our sponsorship page at the back of the book.

For more information, please contact KAP at 697-1140

or kap@kap.mb.ca.

How much of your food is actually Canadian? Watch this video!

www.eatrealeatlocal.ca



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