

The KAP Alert

August 22, 2008

From Grocery Store to the Farm Gate

August 21, 2008 Media Advisory

Manitobans are getting back to school, back to work, and back into grocery stores to re-establish their regular meal routines. We're all talking more about the price of food, but have you ever wondered how much from your grocery cart goes back to the farms that produce it?

KAP will be hosting a media event next week that breaks down a week's worth of meals for a family of four and identifies the farmers' share.

Media will be provided with background information at the event, as well as interesting visuals since all of the groceries will be purchased and on display. Following the event, all of the groceries purchased will be donated to [Winnipeg Harvest](#).

More details on the event & the farmers' share will be in the next KAP Alert.

Managing Financial Risk from Grain Deliveries

As reported in the [Manitoba Co-operator](#) and other farm media this month, the Canadian Grain Commission is warning farmers that high grain prices are putting a strain on some companies' ability to manage their financial risks and keep up with the security requirements set out by the CGC.

To ensure that farmers are covered, the CGC is recommending that they ask to be paid promptly

after grain deliveries are made. While most companies remain on solid ground, it is important for farmers to stay aware of this potential risk to protect themselves and the farm operation.

For more information and advice on how to manage their risk, farmers can visit the CGC's [web site](#) or call them at 1-800-853-6705.

Biomass Incentive Program Announced

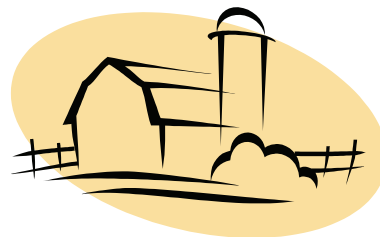
Manitoba Hydro announced a new incentive program this week targeted to over 250 agricultural and industrial customers with access to readily available, low cost sources of biomass, continual needs for heat and power, and the capability to operate biomass to energy conversion systems.

Use of biomass sources such as waste wood, crop residues and livestock manure to produce energy will save these customers money, avoid traditional waste disposal options such as landfills, land spreading and uncontrolled burning, reduce greenhouse gas emissions both locally and in the region and offer many additional environmental benefits.

As part of this program, Manitoba Hydro is offering to provide up to \$1.25 million toward the

capital costs of setting up the right equipment to utilize biomass.

For more information, visit Manitoba Hydro's [web site](#), or call them at 1-888-MBHYDRO (624-9376).



Employment Standards in Agriculture

Farm employees are now covered under some portions of the Employment Standards Code, depending on the type of operation and relationship to the employer. For our members' information, KAP is pleased to provide the following summary of Code provisions. For more information, please go to Manitoba Labour & Immigration's [web site](#), call them at 1-800-821-4307, or email employmentstandards@gov.mb.ca.

| Employment Standard Provision | Farm workers in climate controlled facilities | Farm workers, employed on a farm by a | Farm workers employed by family |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Equal wages | yes | yes | yes |
| Payment of wages | yes | yes | yes |
| Employment records | yes | yes | yes |
| Minimum wage | yes | yes | no |
| Termination | yes | yes | no |
| Child | yes | yes | no |
| Vacations | yes | yes | no |
| Weekly day of | yes | yes | no |
| Work breaks | yes | yes | no |
| Unpaid leaves | yes | yes | no |
| Restrictions on deductions from | yes | yes | no |
| Hours of work | yes | no | no |
| Reporting pay | yes | no | no |
| General Holidays | yes | no | no |

KAP Office News

KAP is pleased to announce that James Battershill will be joining the office as the newly-hired Policy Analyst. His first day will be on September 10.

KAP is currently accepting resumes for the position of Communications Officer, who would

be responsible for media relations, KAP's weekly and quarterly publications, web site, and a range of other important duties.

A complete job description is on KAP's [web site](#), and resumes will be accepted until Friday, August 29.