

# The **KAP Alert**

*Bringing you the Voice of Manitoba Farmers*

**June 27, 2008**

## **School's Out for Summer, But...**

**Media Commentary by KAP President Ian Wishart**

Manitoba's students are closing their books for the last time this summer, but that doesn't mean that learning stops. Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) is a proud supporter of some great organizations that provide great opportunities for Manitoba's young people throughout the year.

One of these is [Camp Wannakumbac](#), located near Clear Lake. They've been providing leadership development in Manitoba's great outdoors for fifty years, and more young people are looking forward to their adventure this July & August. The Camp has always been a great opportunity for rural youth to learn new skills, meet new people, and gain new experiences.

While students are at camp, Agriculture in the Classroom-MB Inc. remains busy cultivating an interest in agriculture. AITC-M staff will attend several summer events where they will have interactive activities on agriculture. One of these events will be in Carberry on July 23 at the Canada-Manitoba Crop Diversification Centre's agriculture innovation day.

AITC-M is also busy planning and preparing for the Amazing Agriculture Adventure in Winnipeg in September for Grade 4 and 5 students and the Ag and the City teacher workshop set for the fall. This program is a way to show educators first hand that agriculture isn't ALL about the farm but is alive and well in urban centres too! If you would like to learn more about AITC-M, visit their website at [www.aitc.mb.ca](http://www.aitc.mb.ca).

This summer, KAP is also hoping that young people take the opportunity to share what they see in agriculture, as part of a contest we're holding to mark our upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Young people and 4-H groups across Manitoba are invited to enter, and to combine interactive & compelling media projects with information and opinions about agriculture & the province's farm families. Every Manitoban between the ages of 9 and 25 is eligible to enter, whether they're from a small town or downtown.

The deadline to enter is Friday, November 7 - but summer is a great time to get started on an agricultural project. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers in two age categories at KAP's annual meeting in January, 2009. For more info on the *Share What You See in Agriculture* contest, go to [www.kap.mb.ca](http://www.kap.mb.ca).

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## **KAP General Council to Meet**

Keystone Agricultural Producers is holding its next General Council meeting on Thursday, July 10 in Brandon. These meetings are the organization's major policy setting events, with delegates from across the province in attendance to debate resolutions and receive important updates on agricultural issues.

**WHAT:** KAP General Council Meeting  
**WHEN:** Thursday, July 10, 9:30 am to 3:00 pm  
**WHERE:** Victoria Inn, Brandon

A special panel discussion on transportation issues is taking place at 11:00 am, with speakers from [Quorum Corporation](#), [Manitoba Agriculture, Food & Rural Initiatives](#), and the [Canadian Wheat Board](#). Farmers and other interested people are welcome to attend.

A complete agenda will be available from the KAP office on Monday, July 7.

District boards that have resolutions for our upcoming General Council meeting should send them to [Yvonne Rideout](#), or fax to (204) 697-1109.

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## **KAP Activities**

**Monday, June 23:** Executive member Weldon Newton attended & spoke at the "Farming for Profit" Conference in Moose Jaw.

**Wednesday, June 25:** President Ian Wishart & GM Yvonne Rideout met with Water Stewardship Minister Christine Melnick to discuss biosecurity guidelines & other water-related issues.

**Thursday, June 26:** President Wishart & Delta Waterfowl's Bob Sopuck met with senior Manitoba Minister Vic Toews to discuss ALUS. President Wishart & GM Rideout met with Labour & Immigration Minister Nancy Allen to discuss the Workers' Compensation Board report on extending mandatory coverage.

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## **Fertilizer Prices in Your Area**

KAP has heard from some members in the south-western part of the province that fertilizer prices are increasing rapidly once again. Please contact us to let us know if prices in your area are stable or on the rise. Thanks!

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## **KAP Hiring Policy Analyst**

KAP is in the process of hiring a policy analyst to conduct research, work with our committees, advise on policies and proposed / existing regulations, and a number of other important duties. A complete job description is posted on our [web site](#), and resumes will be accepted until Thursday, July 24.

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Please note that there will be no KAP Alert newsletter on Friday, July 4 but it will return on July 11.

**Happy Canada Day!**