

The KAP Alert

September 12, 2008

Prairie Farmers Want Election Answers

September 12, 2008 Media Advisory

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan, Keystone Agricultural Producers (Manitoba), and Wild Rose Agricultural Producers (Alberta), have sent an election questionnaire to the party leaders, asking for a response by September 19.

The groups will share the information collected with producers in the Prairie provinces. This will allow voters the opportunity to examine the party platforms before casting their ballots in the election on October 14.

Producers are looking for federal leadership on a number of key issues. The leaders were asked to

outline their plans regarding five critical areas: the environment, farm input prices, transportation, grain payment security, and working with farm organizations.

In this election, agriculture must be a priority and all parties are encouraged to clearly communicate their goals to farmers and the rest of the industry. Canada needs a government that supports agriculture, and also implements the policies that reflect that support. APAS, KAP, and WRAP want to see a move towards a long term plan that ensures producers' sustainability—both financially and environmentally.

KAP Welcomes New Policy Analyst

Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) is pleased to welcome James Battershill as its new Policy Analyst. Battershill joined KAP in this newly-created role today, and his focus will be on analyzing the many important issues facing farm families and agriculture in Manitoba.

Battershill is a recent graduate from the University of Manitoba, where he completed a Bachelor of Arts in Global Political Economy. His thesis focused on an analysis of the global coffee economy, with a focus on the challenges faced by coffee farmers around the world.



With the additional expertise of a Policy Analyst on staff, KAP will be able to direct more time and resources towards research and analysis, help inform its internal policy-making processes, and develop timely and appropriate recommendations to government and other stakeholders.

KAP Bids Farewell to Communications Officer

KAP would like to thank Lenore Kowalchuk for her time, talent, and energy over the past seven years as Communications Officer.

Lenore's contribution to KAP has been outstanding, and she will be greatly missed.



Lenore has created many valuable communications tools for KAP over the years, which has helped to raise the profile of the organization on the provincial and national scene. KAP wishes her all the best in her new position with the Government of Manitoba.

Thank you Lenore!

KAP Activities & Upcoming Events

Monday, September 8: GM Yvonne Rideout and Policy Analyst James Battershill attended the Biosecurity Working Group meeting. Plans for a seminar are being developed. Mark your calendar for a producer session on November 26, 2008 in Portage la Prairie. More information will be available in the coming months.

Tuesday, September 9: GM Yvonne Rideout met with Scott Wolfe Management to discuss alternatives to bonding, followed by a conference call with the producer payment security steering committee. The Executive participated in a conference call. Communications staff Lenore Kowalchuk and Kristen Lucyshyn met with Kelman regarding the Manitoba Farmers' Voice winter issue.

Wednesday, September 10: GM Yvonne Rideout attended the Manitoba Stewardship Tire Advisory Committee meeting. Communications staff Lenore Kowalchuk and Kristen Lucyshyn met with Strata Benefits Consulting regarding Member Benefits.

Thursday, September 11: GM Yvonne Rideout and Communications staff Lenore Kowalchuk and Kristen Lucyshyn participated in a conference call with APAS and WRAP to discuss strategy for the federal election on October 14. President Ian Wishart, VP Robert McLean, and GM Yvonne Rideout, met with Conservation Minister Stan Struthers to discuss Bill C17. President Ian Wishart spoke at a meeting in Eddystone, MB., to discuss the flood situation. The meeting was attended by 100 producers.

Friday, September 12: President Ian Wishart and GM Yvonne Rideout met with WCB. Communications staff Lenore Kowalchuk concluded her last day at KAP as Communications Officer.

All About Member Benefits

KAP is pleased to offer a comprehensive member benefits program with special pricing on a wide range of products. For more information, visit our member benefits web page, or call us toll-free at 1-866-527-0123.

CleanFARMS™ Manitoba Obsolete Collection Program

From October 21–23, CropLife Canada and its program partners are calling on all Manitoba growers to clean out supplies of unwanted obsolete agricultural pesticide products—at no cost—for safe, environmentally friendly and convenient disposal.

Under CropLife Canada's commitment to working responsibly to protect people and the environment, they have partnered with Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Manitoba Conservation and the Canadian Association of Agri-Retailers to provide a province-wide collection program this fall.

Obsolete agricultural pesticides will be accepted at any one of the 20 designated ag-retail sites throughout the province, which have volunteered as collection depots to accept obsolete product during the 3-day blitz. For more information on collection sites or CropLife's obsolete programs, visit www.croplife.ca

Member Benefits Corner

Need a ready source of information on parts, supplies and safety equipment? The new Acklands-Grainger catalogue includes the largest listing of parts and supplies ever printed! There are seven product categories including Tools, Metalworking, Electrical, Facility Maintenance, Material Handling, Safety Equipment & Fleet. To receive your free copy, call toll-free at 1-866-248-8801 or e-mail greenwoodm@agi.ca

To view the specific products on the web-site with the KAP discounts, e-mail kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca with your phone number to receive your special KAP member login code, or if you prefer, call one of the stores directly and provide the KAP member discount code – 253321.

Also look for your special KAP/Acklands-Grainger discount card in your next KAP letter that comes in the mail.