

Farming:



It's Everyone's Business

Who cares about farmers? We all should, because they are at the heart of an industry that creates 49,000 jobs for Manitobans. Every year, over \$3 billion is injected into the provincial economy through agricultural expenditures on the goods and services needed to run family farms. This is the money that fuels rural and urban businesses.

Why should we care now? Farmers are in a crisis mode following three years of trade disputes, low crop and livestock prices, and weather-related disasters. Three terrible years have eaten away farmers' ability to weather another storm or finance another year on the land. Manitoba could lose many of its farmers.

What does that mean to me? Less farmers means less money circulating in the economy, fewer jobs in rural and urban centres, and a continued migration of rural people off of the land and into cities. If one out of every eight jobs is connected to agriculture, does yours? Do you need people to stay in your community to keep schools and hospitals open? Is a thriving rural population and economy important?

The Time to Speak Up is Now

Government officials need to know that farming is important to Manitobans. It's not a problem for government unless they hear about it. There will be no action unless we all decide to speak up. If you're a farmer, tell them your story and how you think farming can become a profitable occupation for your and your family. If you own a business that relies on agriculture, you need to explain what will happen if farmers start disappearing. If you live in a rural community, what would it be like with less farm families?

Get the message out. A complete list of Manitoba's MLAs, MPs and other key government people follows. Make your calls, write emails, or send a letter and let us know about it. Together, we will have a strong voice and government will have to take notice.

Show off your support for Manitoba's farmers. If you want to spread the word even further, consider a "Farming: It's Everyone's Business" license plate holder, which will be available from the KAP office.

It's that simple. Take the time to have your voice heard. Make sure government knows that farming is important to you. Play a part in keeping Manitoba's farmers on the landscape.

Need more information? Call the KAP office or a farmer near you.

Keystone Agricultural Producers
1-1313 Border Street
Winnipeg MB R3H 0X4

Phone: (204) 697-1140
Fax: (204) 697-1109
Email: kap@kap.mb.ca

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Members of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly



These mailing addresses are 450 Broadway Avenue, Winnipeg Manitoba, R3C 0V8

Name	Constituency	Phone	Fax	Email
Premier Gary Doer	Concordia	945-3714	949-1484	premier@leg.gov.mb.ca
Hon. Rosann Wowchuk	Swan River	945-3722	945-3470	minagr@leg.gov.mb.ca
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Mavis Taillieu	Morris	945-3525	942-6613	mtaillieu@leg.gov.mb.ca

Key Federal Elected Officials and Manitoba Members of Parliament

These mailing addresses are House of Commons, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Andy Mitchell	AAFC Minister	(613) 996-3434	(613) 991-2147	Mitchell.A@parl.gc.ca
Wayne Easter	Parliamentary Secretary	(613) 992-2406	(613) 995-7408	Easter.W@parl.gc.ca
Ralph Goodale	Finance Minister	(613) 996-4743	(613) 996-9790	Goodale.R@parl.gc.ca
Reg Alcock	Senior MB Minister	(613) 995-7517	(613) 943-1466	Alcock.R@parl.gc.ca
Diane Finley	Ag Critic	(613) 996-4974	(613) 996-9749	Finley.D@parl.gc.ca

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Name	Constituency	Phone	Fax	Email
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Steven Fletcher	Charleswood- St.James-Assiniboia	(204) 984-6432 (613) 995-5609	(204) 984-6451 (613) 992-3199	Fletcher.S@parl.gc.ca steven@stevenfletcher.com
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