



# MEDIA RELEASE

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“THE VOICE OF MANITOBA FARMERS”

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**For immediate release**

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## **Two Strikes & Farmers Are Out**

**Winnipeg** – Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) is extremely concerned about the effect of the second rail strike this year. On behalf of its farmer-members, KAP is calling on the federal government to recognize the severe impact on farmers, and establish a mediation process to end this dispute quickly.

“Farmers are still recovering from the last strike,” says KAP President David Rolfe. “We’re paying in lost grain sales and delayed movement. These strikes are damaging Canada’s reputation as a reliable exporter, and farmers pay for this as well.”

This is a critical time on many farms. Rail transportation is necessary to deliver farmers’ grain, and the farm community depends on this to provide cash flow during the demanding seeding season.

The strike is also having a noticeable impact on commodity prices and basis levels, leading to lower prices for farmers. KAP is also concerned that any rail disruption will only compound the supply problems for fertilizer that farmers are already experiencing.

KAP encourages the government to take all necessary steps to minimize the impact on farmers, and that the second rail strike this year will be resolved immediately.

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Keystone Agricultural Producers is Manitoba’s largest general farm policy organization, representing over 7,000 farm families and 20 commodity groups throughout the province.

Our strength is our democratic structure, and our mission is to represent and promote the interests of the province’s farm families.