



MEDIA RELEASE

“THE VOICE OF MANITOBA FARMERS”

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General Council Considers the Future

Winnipeg – At yesterday’s General Council meeting, Keystone Agricultural Producers’ delegates focused on how the grains industry will shift over the next five years to accommodate high-quality exports, livestock feed, and energy production. Guest speakers from the Canadian Grain Commission and the Canadian Wheat Board helped to frame the discussion and give some insights about the way forward.

The meeting was well-attended, with farmers from across the province participating in discussion and debate. KAP’s Young Farmers Committee also held a meeting yesterday, to talk about the opportunities and events that they can offer over the coming year.

General Council delegates approved the following resolutions, which are now KAP policy:

On-Farm Food Safety

THAT KAP play an active role in the development of on-farm food safety programs for the cereals, oilseeds, pulses and special crops sectors to ensure that producers’ interests are heard.

Canada Transportation Act Amendments

THAT KAP lobby the Government of Canada to bring forward immediate legislative changes to the Canada Transportation Act to fulfill the agreements between Transport Canada and rail shippers including the initiation of a review of the level of service being provided by railways; and further

THAT KAP work with the Government of Manitoba and other stakeholders to push the necessary legislative amendments forward to ensure that the required level of service review is initiated.

Level of Service Complaint

THAT KAP support the Canadian Federation of Agriculture’s request for intervenor status in the level-of-service complaint filed by Great Northern Grain against the Canadian National Railway; and further,

THAT KAP draw attention to this important issue, as it has the possibility of increasing costs and decreasing transportation flexibility for farmers.

Impact of Phosphorus

THATKAP look for partners to pursue the launch of an awareness campaign to reflect the real value of phosphorus to plant life.

Contributory-Style Program

THATKAP lobby for the removal of the 0.45% CAIS administration fee in light of the new contributory style stabilization program which producers will be investing in.

Beneficial Management Practices

THATKAP approach PFRA to request that they add a “tile drainage” category to their BMP list and outline practices that would qualify for 30% shared cost funding up to a maximum of at least \$30,000 to qualifying producers.

Competitive Environment

THATKAP lobby the Competition Bureau to force a merged company with Agricore United to divest of grain, port, farm supply and terminal facilities that are deemed in close proximity to one another to ensure that competition is maintained.

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