



Letspayfair.com Campaign Launched Province Wide

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Brandon, Manitoba -- Manitoba's agriculture and real estate leaders launched a province wide campaign – **letspayfair.com** - at Ag Days in Brandon today, calling on the Manitoba Government to get education tax off the property tax bill.

And to make sure the government hears the message they have posted an electronic letter on the **letspayfair.com** website that gives Manitobans a fast and convenient way to voice their support. The electronic letter can be easily sent from any computer to the Premier, the Minister of Education, the Finance Minister and any member of the Legislature.

The campaign encourages Manitobans to pull out their property tax bill and take a closer look. In some cases, citizens will find that as much as 50% of the property tax bill is for education, said KAP President David Rolfe.

"Right now, about one-third of the entire education budget is being paid for on the backs of property owners," says KAP President David Rolfe. "Farmers, seniors, families and business owners struggle to keep education adequately funded at the expense of their properties and their farms because, in many cases they are being taxed on debt."

Ron Cornell, Political Action Representative of the Brandon Real Estate Board said **letspayfair.com** asks the province to find a more adequate, fair and equitable way to fund a strong education system.

"Public education is everyone's responsibility and we're calling on the province to show leadership and shift education taxes off property so we can all pay fair," said Cornell.

Keystone Agricultural Producers and the Brandon Real Estate Board kicked off the **letspayfair.com** campaign at Ag Days by distributing 5,000 copies of the **letspayfair.com** newsletter and by running ads in the Brandon Real Estate Journal this week. Other provincial organizations will be carrying the ad in their publications and distributing the letters over the next three months.

The **letspayfair.com** campaign is sponsored by The Education Financing Coalition, representing over 250,000 Manitobans through 40 member organizations. KAP, the Manitoba Real Estate Association (which includes the Brandon Real Estate Board), WinnipegREALTORS Association, the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce and the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce are leading members of the Coalition.

For more information, please reference the attached Q&A sheet, or visit www.letspayfair.com

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