



## NEWS RELEASE

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### “The Voice of Manitoba Farmers”

1-1313 Border St. ~ Winnipeg MB ~ R3H 0X4

ph: (204) 697-1140 ~ fax: (204) 697-1109

[kap@kap.mb.ca](mailto:kap@kap.mb.ca) ~ [www.kap.mb.ca](http://www.kap.mb.ca)

#### **For immediate release**

June 13, 2007

## Barley Marketing Still in Doubt

**Winnipeg** – Following the federal government’s announcement that it had amended the regulation that will remove barley from the Canadian Wheat Board’s single desk, a group (Friends of the CWB) announced that they will be launching a legal challenge and have called for an injunction that will keep barley marketing under the CWB until the court case is resolved.

All of these factors continue to create an even greater climate of uncertainty in barley marketing, according to Keystone Agricultural Producers. KAP believes that the Canadian Wheat Board Act must be respected, and is concerned that the process taken by the federal government has left the door open for legal challenges like the one launched this week.

“The legal challenge shows that there is uncertainty with the process, and farmers have not been satisfied with the approach that has been taken,” says KAP President David Rolfe. “While the government has decided to take a regulatory approach to change the Act, it’s obviously open to a legal challenge. This creates continued confusion, both domestically and internationally. We had hoped that government would have been clear and transparent on the issue, and perhaps much of this could have been avoided.”

KAP continues to have concerns over the future of barley marketing in Western Canada. Most importantly, KAP is concerned about the continuing uncertainty that the entire process has created at the farm gate and in the grain industry. Across Manitoba, seeding is mostly complete and harvest is only a couple of months away. Farmers need clarity, and it is unfortunate that this continues to create confusion in barley marketing.

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#### **For more information, please contact:**

David Rolfe, KAP President. Cell: (204) 483-0502.

Lenore Smaldon, KAP Communications. Office: (204) 697-1140. Cell: (204) 229-4733.

*Text revised on June 14, 2007 for clarity.*