



MEDIA RELEASE

“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 ~ www.kap.mb.ca

For immediate release
March 28, 2007

Flooding Compensation Provides Needed Relief

Winnipeg – After an ongoing lobby effort by Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) in co-operation with other groups, we are pleased that the provincial government has finally recognized the need for flooding compensation for farm families that have been adversely affected by the operation of the Shellmouth Dam.

“The operation of the Shellmouth Dam has protected many Manitoba communities like Brandon, Winnipeg, and Portage la Prairie from flood damage over the last few years, but it has been at the expense of farm operations along the Assiniboine River,” says KAP President David Rolfe. “It’s only fair that these significant losses be covered by the provincial government, to recognize the financial burden that was placed on farmers to protect the homes and businesses of other Manitobans.”

The use of the dam meant that excess water spilled onto farmers’ fields, making them unusable and unproductive for the year. KAP is pleased that the government has recognized the impact that this has had on farmers in the area, and that they have also committed to developing an ongoing program that will address future flooding damages.

KAP will continue to lobby on behalf of farmers to ensure that artificial flooding compensation is fair and adequate, and to ensure that the government follows through on its commitment to a water management strategy that recognizes the risks faced by farm families in flood situation.

- 30 -

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.

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.