



## NEWS RELEASE

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### “The Voice of Manitoba Farmers”

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## The Light at the End of the Tunnel for C-8

**Winnipeg** – Now that Parliament is back in session, Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) was pleased to learn that Bill C-8 passed its final reading and has now gone to the Senate for review. This marks an important step in making change to the Canada Transportation Act, and an eventual level of service review that will take a close look at what railways have been doing for farmers, and at what cost.

“Rail costs and rail service are so important to Manitoba’s farmers,” says KAP President Ian Wishart. “We’re encouraged that Bill C-8 is moving ahead, and we hope that the Senators will see fit to pass it quickly.”

One of the requirements in C-8 is that a level of service review be initiated within 30 days of the bill becoming law. KAP has already submitted its recommendations to government on what should be considered in this review. Overall, we believe that the obligations and expectations currently placed on railways related to level of service are not sufficient. A lack of accountability in the system has led to a decrease in service, which is costing farmers money in inefficiencies, lost sales, demurrage, and other delays. KAP expects that this review would identify gaps in the current legislation and ways that this could be corrected.

KAP looks forward to the opportunity to be involved in the level of service review, once Bill C-8 becomes legislation. KAP’s recommendations for the terms of reference for the level of service review are posted at [www.kap.mb.ca/policy.html](http://www.kap.mb.ca/policy.html).

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