



# NEWS RELEASE

"The Voice of Manitoba Farmers"  
203-1700 Ellice Ave. Winnipeg MB. R3H 0B1  
tel: 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**

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## KAP Sets Policy at General Council

**Winnipeg** –Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) delegates from across the province met in Portage la Prairie on April 8 to learn more about emerging issues in agriculture, and to set direction for the organization. The following resolutions were passed, and are now KAP policy:

### TRANSPORTATION

#### **Provincial Road Maintenance**

**THAT** KAP lobby the provincial government to increase maintenance of gravel Provincial Roads for improved safety.

#### **RTAC Routes**

**THAT** KAP lobby the Minister of Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation to upgrade existing highways to RTAC specifications for RMs without a RTAC route.

#### **Producer Car Loading Sites**

**THAT** KAP lobby Transport Canada, the Federal Minister of Transport, Infrastructure, and Communities, and the Minister of State (Transport) to change Section 151.1(1) of the Canadian Transportation Act to expand the requirements for salvaging a rural rail siding used for producer car loading to include;

- A minimum of three years formal notice to be provided to The Canadian Transportation Agency, both Federal and Provincial Ministers of Agriculture and Transportation, the Canadian Wheat Board, the Canadian Grain Commission, provincial and national grain, oilseed and pulse commodity groups and general farm organizations, relevant municipal councils and mayors and any known producer car loading groups in the region
- An offer to sell the site for no more than salvage value to any of the above listed groups
- Compensation to affected municipalities if a site is salvaged
- A minimum service obligation to non-railway owned sites with penalties for non-compliance; further,

**THAT** KAP lobby Transport Canada, the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and the Minister of State (Transport) to place a moratorium on the salvaging of the 53 producer car loading sites delisted by Canadian National Railway in 2009.

#### **CTA Productivity and Cost Study**

**THAT** KAP lobby the federal Minister of Transportation and Transport Canada to instruct the Canadian Transportation Agency (the Agency) to assess and report on estimated changes in railways' costs for the movement of western grain by rail since 1992; and an assessment of the railways' estimates on how they have shared with shippers recent productivity gains in the movement of western grain by rail, as was done in the 1999 Agency publication *A Report on the Movement of Western Grain*.

## **GRAINS, OILSEEDS AND PULSES**

### **Seed Technology Agreements**

**THAT** KAP remind members to take care in reading any contracts they are required to sign when purchasing seeds and farm chemicals; further,

**THAT** KAP lobby the federal government and appropriate national agriculture industry groups, including the Canadian Canola Growers Association, to investigate the anticompetitive nature of seed use contracts; further,

**THAT** KAP lobby the federal government and appropriate national agriculture industry groups, including the Canadian Canola Growers Association, to investigate the onerous financial implications to farmers of seed use contracts.

### **Flax and European Imports**

**THAT** KAP initiate an examination of a potential consumer boycott of European products in response to unfairly restrictive protocols on Canadian flax exports.

### **Roundup Ready™ Alfalfa**

**THAT** KAP support the Manitoba Forage Seed Association Inc. in holding the Government of Canada directly responsible for any economic loss experienced as a result of trade injury incurred due to loss of export markets for alfalfa seed and other legume & grass seed crops related to the introduction of Roundup™ Ready alfalfa into Canada.

## **RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Bipole III Route**

**THAT** KAP lobby the Manitoba Government to abandon plans to develop the west side Bipole III route and return to the shorter east side route.

## **BUSINESS RISK MANAGEMENT**

### **AgriRecovery**

**THAT** KAP lobby both the federal and provincial governments to undergo a consultation process with farm groups in an effort to better define the AgriRecovery Program under Growing Forward; further,

**THAT** KAP lobby both the federal and provincial governments to ensure that the AgriRecovery Program is adequately funded to meet the needs of the primary agricultural industry.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **BMP Policy Paper**

**THAT** KAP adopt the 2010 KAP BMP Policy Paper.

### **Crop Residue Management Policy Paper**

**THAT** KAP adopt the 2010 KAP Residue Management Policy Paper.

## **OTHER**

### **Supply Management Quota Transfer Levy**

**THAT** KAP lobby the provincial government to drop the 2% levy on supply managed quota exchanges.

**For more information, please contact:**

Ian Wishart, KAP President. Cell: (204) 856-6964.

Kristen Lucyshyn, KAP Communications. Office: (204) 697-1140. Cell: (204) 792-2661.

*Keystone Agricultural Producers is Manitoba's largest general farm policy organization, representing over 7,000 farm families and 22 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.*