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# The KAP Alert

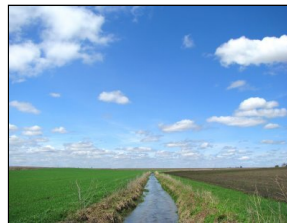
February 12, 2010

## This Week's KAP Minute

The KAP Minute is news for and about farmers from Keystone Agricultural Producers.

 **LISTEN HERE!**


**IAN WISHART:** A hot topic that keeps coming up in conversations with producers is licensing for drain maintenance. KAP believes this licensing is something every farmer needs to look after to make sure they can continue to maintain farm drains in the future. Existing drains can be handled in a block for one fee, which is \$25. This licenses existing drains in perpetuity. As long as the drainage maintenance is a straight forward issue, licensing can be done during the winter months. Water Stewardship staff come to the farm at your request with photo maps showing all of the existing drains—and it's done in one day. KAP encourages producers to get in touch with their local Manitoba Water Stewardship office to get these done at their earliest convenience. If KAP can help you with this or any other farm issue, please contact us with a call, letter, or email.



 [Follow us on Twitter](#)

### KAP

#### Membership

Membership renewals for 2010 have been sent out and we encourage members to pay. You may now pay using a credit card on the KAP website using .

#### Looking for your EFP

##### Certificate?

If you are a producer who has misplaced your Environmental Farm Plan Statement of Completion and you need another copy, please contact Christine at KAP at 697-1140 or [kap@kap.mb.ca](mailto:kap@kap.mb.ca).

Tune in to the KAP Minute every Thursday on 3 stations in Manitoba!

**CFAM**  
Radio 950

CFAM Radio 950 Community Service  
Radio in Altona  
[Listen](#) at 12:56 p.m.

**CFRY**  
920 AM 93.1 FM

CFRY 920AM and 93.1FM Real Country  
Radio in Portage La Prairie  
[Listen](#) at 12:48 p.m.

**CKLQ**  
880

880 CKLQ Today's Best Country in  
Brandon  
[Listen](#) at 12:28 p.m.



KAP will be at Agriculture in the City  
at The Forks Market, March 19-21, 2010  
See you there!

**CLICK**  
for event info!



Canadian farmers celebrate  
their role in providing  
consumers with a safe and  
affordable food supply

Canadian Federation of Agriculture News Release  
February 12, 2010

On February 12, 2010, the



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## Activities

### Monday, February 8:

The Executive met at the KAP office.

### Tuesday, February

**9:** VP Doug Chorney and GM Yvonne

Rideout met with Bruce Cielen of the Workers

Compensation Board of Manitoba regarding farm safety programming.

President Ian Wishart, VP Doug Chorney, District 8 Board

Member Garth

McTavish, District 8

Board Member Roger Burrough, GM Yvonne

Rideout and Policy

Analyst James

Battershill met with

Manitoba Hydro to

discuss Bipole III.

### Wednesday,

### February 10:

President Ian Wishart and VP Doug

Chorney attended the

4th Annual Manitoba

Special Crops

Symposium.

average Canadian will have enough income to pay his or her individual grocery bill for the entire year.

"Farmers are very proud of their role in providing high quality food produced at the highest food safety and environmental standards," said Laurent Pellerin, CFA President.

Food Freedom Day is occurring on the same day as it did in 2009, which is slightly later than in previous years, due to the effects of the recession on disposable income and an increase in the price of food. The calculation is a simple comparison of Canadian's disposable income and the amount they spend on food.

For Food Freedom Day 2010, the CFA looked back at food prices over the past 30 years at both the farm gate and retail levels. This research highlighted the hard work farmers do in ensuring Canadian's receive great value for their food dollar.

"While the prices Canadian consumers pay for food has been steadily increasing over the past 30 years, the amount that returns to the farm gate is relatively small," said Pellerin.

The Farmers' Share, a recent study commissioned by prairie members of the CFA, showed that, on average, only 27 per cent of the cost of an entire week's worth of groceries for a family of four goes back to the farms where the food is produced.

To ensure that consumers are able to identify Canadian food products and support our agriculture sector, the CFA will continue to advocate for effective ingredient-based 'Product of Canada' guidelines that are both informative to the consumer and practical to the agri-food sector.

[Click here to download graphs](#)

#### **Thursday, February**

**11:** VP Doug Chorney attended a Manitoba Employers Council meeting. President Ian Wishart was a guest speaker for Agri-business and Agri-environment students at Assiniboine Community College in Brandon. VP Rob Brunel participated in a Manitoba Water Council wetlands and wetland policy meeting regarding public consultation materials.

#### **Friday, February 12:**

GM Yvonne Rideout participated in a Manitoba Canadian Agricultural Safety Week Launch Committee conference call. President Ian Wishart was the guest speaker for Diploma in Agriculture students at the University of Manitoba.

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## **Events**

*Founded in 1935 to provide Canada's farmers with a single voice in Ottawa, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture is the country's largest farmers' organization. Its members include provincial general farm organizations, national and inter-provincial commodity organizations, and cooperatives from every province. Through its members, CFA represents over 200,000 Canadian farmers and farm families.*

**Canadian Agricultural Safety Week**  
**March 14 - 20, 2010**

**CLICK  
FOR  
INFO**

## Canadian Agricultural Safety Week launched at MacDon Industries

### Canadian Agricultural Safety Week News Release February 10, 2010

Manitoba producers and farm safety advocates are invited to the official launch of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week on March 11th, 10 a.m., at MacDon Industries Ltd., 590 Moray Street in Winnipeg.

"Plan • Farm • Safety" is the theme of this three-year Canadian Agricultural Safety campaign. Each aspect of the theme will be promoted over the next three years. This year the campaign will promote "Plan" with safety walkabouts and planning for safety. In the second year, the focus will be on "Farm" including implementation, documentation and training. In the third year, emphasis will be on "Safety" including assessment, improvement and further development of safety systems.

The year-long "Plan" campaign will be launched with Canadian Agricultural Safety Week (CASW), from March 14 to 20. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) and Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA)

#### **February 17:**

Manitoba Hay Day – Where Quality Grows Opportunity, Brandon Research Station, Brandon, MB.

[Website](#)

#### **February 17-19:**

Canadian International Farm Show, Toronto, ON.

[Website](#)

#### **February 21-23:**

GrainWorld 2010, Fairmont Hotel, Winnipeg, MB.

[Website](#)

#### **February 25 – 27:**

The 9th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference, Patterns of Change: Learning From Our Past To Manage Our Present And Conserve Our Future, Winnipeg Convention Centre, Winnipeg. One of the most important gatherings devoted to landscape and wildlife conservation in western Canada. The conference will bring together decision-

deliver CASW in partnership with Farm Credit Canada (FCC) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

“Manitoba’s agricultural industry is diverse, vibrant and vital to our economy, environment and quality of life,” said Doug Chorney, Keystone Agricultural Producers Vice President, a member organization of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. “Farm safety is an important part of successful farming. It is what is best for the people, products and future of agriculture.”

The launch is being held in partnership with leading farm safety advocates. “Working together for the common goal of health and safety in agriculture is a key role in the development and support of farm safety in Manitoba,” says Marcel Hacault, CASA Executive Director.

Each year in Canada an average of 115 people are killed and at least 1,500 are hospitalized for farm-related incidents according to the Canadian Agricultural Injury Reporting program (CAIR). In 2006 a total of 13,801 Canadian farms reported one or more medically treated or lost time injuries, reports Statistics Canada. More information on Canadian Agricultural Safety Week is available at [www.planfarmsafety.ca](http://www.planfarmsafety.ca).



## Manitoba Farm & Rural Stress Line Farmer-To-Farmer Workshops

**CLICK FOR POSTER**

makers, researchers and community and grass-roots groups along with farmers, ranchers, Aboriginal groups and other private citizens who have an abiding interest in sustaining prairie land, water, plants and animals. [Website](#)

**April 16-18:** Equine Educational Weekend Horse3 (Head\*Heart\*Hooves), Keystone Centre, Brandon. [Website](#)

### Check out these upcoming Value Chain Manitoba Events!

**Module 5:**  
**Understanding Category Management**  
February 18, 2010  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Various rural video conference locations available.

Join the Manitoba Farm & Rural Stress Line for its series of free workshops on men and depression.

Learn the signs and symptoms of depression, treatment options, and where to go for help. Learn to live a healthier, more balanced life and/or help someone you love. There is hope and there is help available.

**Dates:**

**February 16 or February 18:** 1:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m., Provincial Building, Room B8 (basement), 340 Ninth Street, Brandon, MB.

**February 22:** 1:30 p.m.- 4:40 p.m., Southern Manitoba Convention Centre, Morris, MB.

**February 23:** 1:30 p.m. - 4:40 p.m., Arborg/Bifrost Recreation Centre, Arborg, MB.

For more information call 1-877-367-3276 (toll free) or email [info@ruralstress.ca](mailto:info@ruralstress.ca).

**Module 6: Product Development: Are You Market Ready?**

March 18, 2010

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Various rural video conference locations available.

Registration is free for all workshops. For more information or to download a registration form visit [www.valuechainmb.ca](http://www.valuechainmb.ca) or call 1-800-216-9767.

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## Ship Grain by Rail?

### Federal Rail Freight Service Review

KAP is preparing a submission for the Federal Rail Freight Service Review and we would like input from members. The service review submissions are intended to identify the nature and extent of service issues with CN and CP.



We are also being encouraged to offer recommendations for possible solutions to the ongoing issues. While it is typically the elevator that deals with the railways directly, KAP wants to hear two things from producers:

1. How have issues at the elevator with poor rail service (cars not arriving on time, not being delivered on time, not being properly maintained) affected your business as a farmer? Any specific examples are welcome.
2. For any producers who have shipped producer cars in the past three years, what issues have you come across in dealing directly with the railways?

Please get in touch with James Battershill ASAP at the KAP office either by phone at 697-1140 or by email [policy@kap.mb.ca](mailto:policy@kap.mb.ca).

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## Member Benefits Corner

### KAP Core Plan and PHSP make excellent combo for KAP members

The KAP **Core program**, underwritten by The Co-operators provides the following coverage for you, your family and even your employees.



Coverage to age 70, provided you enroll prior to age 65 includes:

- 100% **ambulance and semi-private hospital**
- Year-round **travel health** (30 days per-trip maximum, 90-day pre-existing conditions clause)

- Access to **Best Doctors** (Receive information on your condition from a team of Harvard-affiliated doctors, who conduct an exhaustive analysis of your medical information)
- **Medical approval is not required**

**Annual Rates:**

Plan	Age	Single	Couple	Family
CORE PLAN (annual premiums)	< 50	\$126.00	\$219.00	\$261.00
	50 – 59	\$132.00	\$231.00	\$276.00
	60 – 69*	\$138.00	\$241.80	\$291.00

*\*Applicant must be in the program prior to age 65 to remain eligible to age 70.*

**These annual premiums are also eligible for a business expenses.**

Members can than use the **Private Health Services Plan (PHSP)**, for other medical expenses.

The PHSP is not an insurance program, but rather a special allowance in the Income Tax Act. Although most people still use the old Medical Expense Tax Credit program, the PHSP will always provide more savings as long as the person is paying income tax.

One of the key advantages of the PHSP is that, if you're not sure if you will be in a taxable position, claims for the PHSP can be left until tax preparation time of the following year. **As an example, the overall savings for a farmer in a 35% tax bracket would be almost \$400 on \$1,000 of expenses!**

If your farm is incorporated, directors can use the program to reimburse themselves for personal medical expenses. By this, the farm corporation

can then fund the PHSP account, allowing the director to be personally reimbursed tax free!

**This program can also be offered to farm employees as a valuable employee health benefit.**

Because this is not an insurance product, there are no medical questions, pre-existing conditions, limitations, or age restrictions!

Also, if your spouse has a benefits program through off farm work, the co-insurance amount that is not covered by insurance, any expenses above plan maximums, as well as any deductibles or orthodontics not covered by an insurance program are eligible under the PHSP.

In addition, travel for medical appointments when over 40 km one-way is also an eligible expense at 50.5 cents/km, plus you may claim a flat rate of \$17 per meal, to a maximum of \$51 per day, per person, without receipts.

For more information, please call Karley Middleton at 1-866-996-7477 or email [kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca](mailto:kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca).

For information on any of our benefits programs, call our Member Benefits line at 1-866-527-0123, or go to our [website](#), or [email](#) us.

***By participating in these programs, KAP members provide further strength to KAP by improving its benefits programs for farmers.***

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