

The **KAP Alert**

Bringing you the Voice of Manitoba Farmers

June 13, 2008

Bill 17 Hearings Conclude

Over the last week, over 300 people have spoken up about [Bill 17](#) as part of the Legislative Committee's public hearing process. KAP would like to recognize and congratulate all of the farmers and agricultural industry stakeholders who took the time to present on this important issue. This is the largest number of people to ever present to Committee, which meant long waiting times to present at hearings that stretched late into the night.

The Legislature reached agreement that a decision on Bill 17 - which would put a permanent moratorium on building or expanding hog farms across much of agro-Manitoba - will be postponed until the fall session. The summer may be a good opportunity for government to develop significant amendments to the bill, or to decide to scrap it altogether.

If you were unable to present, or would like to provide further comments about Bill 17, the summer may be a good time to [contact your MLA](#).

KAP has posted its presentation on Bill 17 on its [web site](#), along with a submission made on Bill 13 - which dealt with damage to infrastructure.

Odour Mitigation Products Added to KAP's Member Benefits Program

KAP and Curry Industries have announced a new member benefits program for KAP members. Under the program, KAP members will have access to preferred rates, and [Curry Industries](#) will offer KAP members a 10% cash rebate on all of its specialized poly-based systems designed for odour mitigation and many other on-farm uses.

"Curry Industries manufactures their product in Manitoba, but most of it is currently exported to the US and parts of Europe," says KAP President Ian Wishart. "Farmers here are becoming more interested in odour mitigation, so this is an excellent opportunity for us to work with Curry Industries and offer preferred pricing to our members."

Curry Industries offers a range of products that can be used as lagoon covers, greenhouse covers, equipment shelters, and also for composting, aquaculture, and evaporation control.

"In addition, our newly-patented Bio Retractable Cover and Poly-Fastener System can also be used economically for a multitude of other on-farm uses, such as storm windows, silage wrap, and even easy installation of screens for gazebos, just to name a few," says Mike Curry, General Manager, Curry Industries.

Under the program, KAP members can apply for the 10% rebate after making a purchase from Curry Industries. Forms will be available next week on the KAP web site at www.kap.mb.ca, or members can contact the program administrators at 1-866-527-0123 or kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca.

KAP members can get more information about specific products by visiting the Curry Industries web site at www.curryindustries.com or by calling 1-800-538-0008.

KAP Activities

Wednesday, June 11 - VP Robert McLean participated in a [Canadian Federation of Agriculture](#) conference call to discuss [Made in Canada labeling](#) and the upcoming federal consultation.

Thursday, June 12 - KAP's management team met in Winnipeg.

Friday, June 13 - VP Rob Brunel attended a Buffer Tool Information meeting in Carberry.

Events for Young Farmers

KAP's Young Farmers Committee is covering the cost of registration for up to five young farmers who want to attend the [Provincial Grazing Tour](#) (July 23 - 24, Portage la Prairie) or [Crop Diagnostic School](#) (one day, between July 8 & 18 in Carman).

If you're interested in attending either of these events, please contact [Lenore](#) at the KAP office for more information.

Member Benefits Corner

The Manitoba government recently announced an increase to the Pharmacare Deductible Rates of approximately 5% for the April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 benefit year.

By enrolling in KAP's new Health & Dental Services Plan (administered by [Olympia Trust](#) as a private health services plan, or PHSP), you will save on your prescription drugs as well as:

- Insulin & testing supplies;
- Naturopath medications that are purchased from a naturopathic doctor;
- All dental services, including cosmetic procedures;
- Vision services, including exams, glasses, contact lenses and laser eye surgery;
- Medical practitioner services, including chiropractors, podiatry, acupuncture, physiotherapy, osteopathy, and others;
- Mileage for medical purposes, when the services are not available within 40 kms from home; and
- Materials & apparatus which are prescribed by a recognized medical practitioner.

From now until July 31, KAP members can also save \$150 on Olympia's one-time set up fee of \$335.

For more information or to apply, follow [this link](#), email kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca or call 1-866-527-0123.