



MEDIA RELEASE

“THE VOICE OF MANITOBA FARMERS”

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Ag Ministers’ Meeting Sets Important Goals

Winnipeg – Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) is encouraged by the recent goals set out by federal and provincial agriculture ministers.

KAP is pleased that work continues on a program to replace CAIS, and by governments’ commitment to consult with farmers and farm organizations in its development. Staff have been directed to bring forward recommendations back to ministers by June, recognizing the urgency of change. However, government will have to keep in mind that farmers will likely be occupied with seeding, and so extra effort must be taken to ensure that meaningful consultations will continue during this period.

Farmers continue to look for more detail on how the previously-announced \$400 million in federal assistance, earmarked to address increasing production costs, will be delivered. Unfortunately, no further details were released as part of this meeting.

KAP will continue to consult with government and other stakeholders to ensure that farmers’ interests are well represented. Both the federal and provincial government need to work with farm organizations, including KAP, to ensure that new programs and changes to existing programs are made to serve the interests of farmers.

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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.