



## APAS in Action – April 2016

### 2016 Provincial Election

APAS would like to recognize all candidates who demonstrated their commitment to democracy and let their names stand for election. We would like to congratulate all of those who were elected to the Legislature and look forward to working with Premier Brad Wall and his government, and the Official Opposition on agricultural and rural issues in the next Legislative session.

Agriculture remains the most important sector of the Provincial economy. On March 16, APAS released our agricultural policy document, **“Why Agriculture Matters”**, to profile our industry and highlight ten key agricultural issues during the 2016 provincial election campaign. The APAS document also served as the foundation for discussion at a televised Agricultural Dialogue that APAS hosted on March 22 in Saskatoon, which included agricultural leaders from the five registered provincial parties.

On March 28, the Saskatchewan Party provided APAS with a detailed response to the “Why Ag Matters” policy document. We look forward to working with the new provincial government on the important agricultural issues and priorities discussed during the campaign.

[Download “Why Ag Matters”: APAS Policy Priorities for the 2016 SK Election](#)

[Download Saskatchewan Party Response to “Why Ag Matters”](#)



### AG Matters Dialogue

APAS and the Western Producer teamed up to host Why Ag Matters – The Agricultural Leaders Dialogue held in Saskatoon March 22. Our goal was to provide an opportunity to better understand the agricultural and food platforms of the five provincial political parties.

The opportunity for individuals to view the dialogue was well received with four different outlets: the APAS website, Western Producer, Access7, and Shaw. The event was a big success with considerable media coverage and participation from reps, associate members and sponsors.

[Ag Matters Dialogue Picture](#)

### **APAS District Meetings**

From March 21 to April 7, APAS representative gathered in each of our six districts. Agenda items included “Why Ag Matters” and the 2016 Provincial Election, the Canadian Transportation Agency review report, and APAS’s Business Risk Management survey of producers. Reps also discussed a wide range of provincial and local issues, and identified topics for future meetings.

### **Grain Commission Fees**



The Canadian Grain Commission’s fees for the new fiscal year will come into effect on April 1, 2016.

As part of the user fee schedule implemented on August 1, 2013, the Canadian Grain Commission’s user fees are updated annually on April 1. A full schedule of our fees is available at

<http://www.grainscanada.gc.ca/services-services/sfm-msf-eng.htm>

### **FCC presents Farmland Values Webinar**

FCC is hosting a free webinar on **Thursday, April 14 at 10:00 a.m. CST** with FCC Chief Ag Economist J.P. Gervais, who will share the results of the annual Farmland Values Report and explore how those values compare to last year. Mr .Gervais will also provide insight on what the results and the current global economic trends could mean for farm businesses.

For more information and to register for this webinar, please follow this link:

<https://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/events/agriwebinars.html>



## **The 2016 Census of Agriculture arrives in May**

All Canadian farm operators will receive a letter in May 2016 with instructions on how to complete the questionnaire online.

The online questionnaire will automatically add totals and skip sections that do not apply to the operator's farm. As a result, completing the questionnaire online will be. On average, farmers should spend 30% less time responding to the 2016 Census of Agriculture than they did responding to the previous census. The 2016 questionnaire has 18 fewer questions than it did in 2011.

The value of participating in the Census includes:

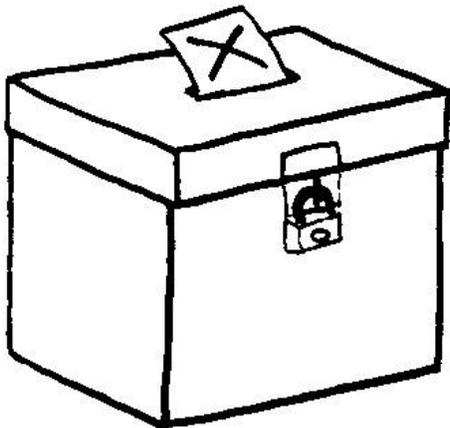
- Identifies trends and provides factual information on emerging issues, opportunities and challenges within the agricultural community.
- Covers a wide range of topics, such as land use, crops, livestock, agricultural labour, machinery and equipment, land management practices, and farm finances.
- Provides farmers, farm organizations, policy makers, stakeholders and citizens with relevant information about the future of the Canadian agricultural sector, and help them make informed decisions regarding agricultural practices in this country.

In May, complete your questionnaire and tell your story as part of Canada's farming community!

## **APAS Rep Elections**

All APAS Representatives' positions are up for renewal in 2016. November 15, 2016 is the start of a two-year term for APAS Representatives.

If you are interested in solving problems to help other farmers and ranchers, if you see an opportunity to make corrections today to improve the ag industry for tomorrow, if you find personal satisfaction in being involved as a farmer and rancher and want to extend that option to the next generations, please join APAS as a Representative.



Please see your RM Council or Administrator, fill out a nomination form or call APAS for more information about being an APAS Representative.

Women or men who understand and is involved in farming, whom sees more opportunity then hindrances, wants to enhance the industry for your sons and daughters, and enjoys working with other farmers and ranchers to solve problems and create a better farm environment currently and for the future, the Representative position is meant for you.

## Correction

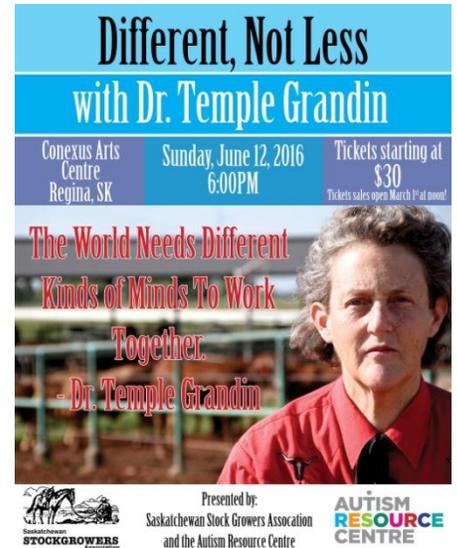
In March APAS welcomed the RM of Kingsley. A correction in the article – Kipling is on Highway #48, not #46. Thank you to Greg for pointing out the error.

## Different, Not Less – An Evening With Dr. Temple Grandin

“Temple is truly the rock star of the autism world and beyond. Dr. Grandin is an international autism advocate, author, speaker and livestock-handling expert whose brilliance and insights have revolutionized how we think about autism, animal welfare and humanity,” said Keely Wight, ARC Executive Director.

To learn more about this event visit:

<http://www.autismresourcecentre.com/temple-grandin/>



## Winner from the BRM survey



Joe Hoffer is the winner of the Markers Work Wear house cards



## Save the Dates:

July 18 - Summer **Midterm** Meeting (Saskatoon)

July 19 - Ag in Motion

September 9 - Rep elections for 2016 nomination day - nomination day

October 26 - APAS **Rep elections** day

November 15 - Representatives take office

November 29, 30 and December 1 - APAS **AGM** (Regina)