



## **APAS in Action – June 2016**

### Rail Transportation Update

A motion to extend provisions in Bill C-30, Fair Rail for Grain Farmers Act, continues to wind its way through Parliament. The Bill C-30 provisions include extended interswitching allowances and an enhanced dispute settlement arbitration process for shippers and railways. Other important measures include additional reporting requirements and the ability for the government to renew minimum volume requirements if needed.

APAS has been lobbying Parliament to hasten the renewal of these provisions before Parliament recesses for summer break. Earlier this month, APAS sent a letter to Saskatchewan members of the Senate asking them to consider the matter a top priority. We were relieved to hear that the motion was introduced on June 8 and was expected to pass through the Senate fairly quickly.

It is essential that these measures remain in place until long-term solutions can be implemented.

On June 15, President Norm Hall and other members of the Crop Logistics Working Group are meeting with AAFC Minister MacAulay to discuss transportation policy and reform.



### Growing Forward 2/3 Consultations

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) wants feedback from farmers about their experiences with Growing Forward 2 programs. AAFC has developed a brief questionnaire that producers can complete online or submit via fax or mail. It's important that the views of Saskatchewan producers are well represented. To complete the questionnaire, please visit: [Questionnaire Link](#)

Federal and provincial governments are reviewing Growing Forward 2 programs as the five-year agreement approaches its midway point. APAS continues to be involved in the consultation process and has submitted the results of the APAS farm program survey to federal and provincial ag departments for their consideration and review. To view the results of the APAS Survey, please visit: [Survey Results Link](#)

## Saskatchewan 2016 Budget

President Norm Hall and Vice President Todd Lewis attended the provincial budget address at the Saskatchewan Legislature on June 1. The provincial budget included a 7.5% increase in spending for agriculture.

[Read the New Release](#)

## APAS Mid-term

July 18, 2016 at the Saskatoon Inn is the place to meet to renew acquaintances with other APAS Representatives, get a current update on agriculture issues and hear some great speakers.

Confirmed speakers include:

- Dr. Henry Janzen, AAFC, to discuss carbon sequestration in agricultural soils
- Ms. Sara Alexander, Global Institute for Food Security
- Mr. Mark Hemmes, Quorum Corporation, Canada's Grain Monitor
- Ms. Jeanne Martinson, Martrain Corporate & Personal Development, Regina: Leading & Participating in Fast, Harmonious, & Effective Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> session of 3 part series
- Ms. Monica Hadaritis, Canadian Roundtable on Sustainable Beef
- Ms. Lori Jasper, Co-operators, Yorkton

Be informed about current and future ag topics on behalf of your ratepayers.



**Note:** if other members of your family or council wish to participate in Ms. Martinson session, they are welcome.

[Registration is now available](#)

## APAS Rep featured in Western Producer

Link to Article: [Sustainability essential as family farm expands](#)

## Ag in Motion: July 19-21

APAS Representatives attending the Mid-term will also receive a daily pass for Ag in Motion, July 19-21 at Langham. Ag in Motion has expanded with more exhibits. For more information please go to <http://aginmotion.ca/>



APAS has a booth at Ag in Motion (FCC Ag Pavilion #93) right beside the Co-operators. Stop by for a visit!

## Youth Farm Leadership Program

APAS is pleased to offer the Youth Leadership & Mentorship Program (YLMP) for 2016-17. During the 10 months YLMP mentees will have the opportunity to work with a mentor, to attend the APAS District, Committee and Annual General Meetings, participate in the CFA AGM in Ottawa in February, expand your network, interact with farm, provincial and federal leaders and be involved in professional development.

The objective – to improve their understanding of the skills, competencies and processes involved in being a farm leader and how to advance grassroots policies to improve the agricultural environment.

If you want more information see APAS website @ [www.apas.ca/youth-leadership-program](http://www.apas.ca/youth-leadership-program) or call Don Ross at 306-789-7774 ext 3 or [dross@apas.ca](mailto:dross@apas.ca).

[Click to download APAS YLMP application form](#)

Young women and men, under the age of 39 years as of November 1, 2016 are welcome to apply to become an APAS Youth candidate for the 2016-17 program.

Application deadline is November 1, 2016



Figure 1 Youth Leaders - CFA AGM 2016 Photo Credit Don Ross

## Mark's Work Wearhouse Cards

Mark's cards have been distributed to full-time and transitional APAS RM offices. The new cards expire on August 31, 2017 and qualify the cardholder for a 10% discount on regular retail items. The cards will be distributed through your RM tax notice or can be obtained from your RM office.

## APAS Member Cards

APAS member cards for the 2016-17 year will be arriving at your RM office soon. Distribution will be through RM tax notices or can be picked up at the RM office.

The card notes that ratepayers are members of APAS and on the reverse of the wallet-sized card identifies various member rewards such as Chrysler Fleet Program with the fleet number and Acklands Grainger with the account number. The Acklands number has changed from last year.



NOTE: please use the Mark's Work Wearhouse Card to receive your 10% discount at Marks stores.

## Save the Dates:

July 18 - Summer **APAS Midterm Meeting** (Saskatoon) – [Registration Link](#)

July 19-21 - Ag in Motion (Langham) (Free ticket with APAS Midterm attendance)

September 9 – APAS Representatives' nomination day

October 26 - APAS **Representatives election** day

November 15 – APAS Representatives take office

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