



APAS in Action – May 2016

Government renews Bill C-30

On April 22, the federal government announced its intention to renew certain provisions of Bill C30, the Fair Rail for Grain Farmers Act, including the extension of railway “interswitching” limits that were set to expire on August 1, 2016.

Renewal of Bill C30 was the first step of an approach that APAS recommended the government take in responding to the Canada Transportation Act Review Panel’s Final Report. Other recommendations included further consultations to resolve longstanding service complaints, an immediate and full costing review and the continuation of the Maximum Revenue Entitlement program.

[Read the APAS Response to the CTA Review Final Report](#)

APAS Farm Program Survey Results

APAS recently released the results of a producer survey on Growing Forward 2 business risk management programs. The survey polled Saskatchewan producers about their use of Agri-Invest, Agri-Insurance and Agri-Stability and asked them how well the programs are meeting their need. Growing Forward 2 expires on March 31, 2018 and preparations are already underway to consider the design for the next generation of policy and programs. The APAS Farm Program Survey results will help inform these discussions. Thank you to everyone who filled out the survey.

[Click here to download the APAS Farm Program Survey Results](#)

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) is also highlighting the need for program improvements in preparation for the next agricultural policy framework. To initiate these discussions, the CFA recently released the paper: [The Next Agriculture Policy Framework \(2018\): Positioning Canadian Agriculture for Continued Success.](#)

APAS will continue to consult its members and work alongside the CFA to ensure farm policies and programs meet the business needs of Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers.

APAS District Meetings

Over 75% of APAS reps met at 6 very successful District Meetings in March and April.

[Read the Report from the 2016 Spring District Meetings](#)

Open Letter: Sustainability of Canadian Beef

Earl's decision to switch to a U.S. based supply of "Certified Human Beef" ignited a public discussion around the safety and integrity of Canada's agri-food system. Throughout the discussion, a number of producers contacted the APAS office expressing concern that labels like "Certified Humane" throw the ethical treatment of "non-labelled" beef into question. The company since modified its decision, pledging to work with industry to ensure a Canadian supply. Following this announcement, APAS wrote an open letter to Earl's inviting the company to learn more about our existing animal care and food safety systems. Food retailers, as responsible participants in our food supply chain, have a role to play to ensure information about food safety and animal treatment is accurate and complete.

[Read the APAS Letter to Earls](#)

APAS in the News

['Serious problems' with Agri-Stability, APAS survey says:](#)

[Farmers report dissatisfaction with current program](#)

[Agriculture industry concerned over non-payments from energy companies](#)

[Ag groups concerned over emergency grain transport law expiring](#)

[Transportation report suggests voluntary revenue cap option](#)

CGC Licensing Consultations

The Canadian Grain commission is consulting with stakeholders about proposals to remove licensing exemptions for producer car loading facilities, feed mills, and agents with elevator facilities. While APAS has previously expressed support for the licensing of some feed mills, Representatives and other members have expressed concern about the proposal to license producer car loading facilities. APAS recently wrote to the CGC requesting that the consultation be postponed, indicating that the June 3 deadline does not provide producers the opportunity to fully study the proposal and provide meaningful input. APAS is requesting the deadline be extended to August 31.

To read more about the CGC proposals, please visit:

www.grainscanada.gc.ca/consultations/2016/licensing-review-en.htm

Sask Regway/Montana-Raymond Border Crossing

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture is looking for feedback from producers and other agri-businesses that use the Saskatchewan-Regway/Montana-Raymond border crossing. U.S. customs recently announced plans to reduce hours of operation at this particular crossing. The provincial

government wants to know the reduced hours of operations might affect Saskatchewan businesses. If you or anyone you know uses this border crossing, please contact: info@apas.ca / 306-789-7774 ext. 4. Please submit your comments by May 16.

Ag in Motion: July 19-21

Ag in Motion offers a unique opportunity for farmers to get up close and personal with today's agricultural technology. Through live field demonstrations of farm equipment and crop plot demonstrations, farmers can gather valuable, hands-on information to help them make informed decisions about their operation.

Over the three days of Ag in Motion, farmers will have the chance to see themed field demos, as well as live demonstrations that various exhibitors will hold on their exhibit space or in the demo field. The themed demos planned for 2016 include a Tillage Demo, a Precision Seeding Demo and a Haycutting Demo. Also featured will be a Self-Propelled Sprayer Ride'N'Drive.



Crop Plot Demonstrations: Ag in Motion offers farmers a unique opportunity to see live crop plots from a variety of seed and crop protection companies, all in one place.

2015 Livestock Demonstration: For the first year at Ag in Motion, there will be one livestock demonstration held daily.

2015 Agri-Trend Knowledge Tent: Ag in Motion is a place to learn, and the speaker series in the Agri-Trend Knowledge Tent offers attendees the chance to relax and hear engaging speakers talking about relevant issues. To see who is speaking use the following link; <http://aginmotion.ca/agri-trend-knowledge-tent/>

APAS will have daily passes to Ag in Motion for our Representatives who attend the Mid-term. APAS will also have a booth at Ag in Motion.

Come to the APAS Mid-term and stay for Ag in Motion – a great two day for farmers and ranchers!

The 2016 Census of Agriculture has arrived

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



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.

Complete the census online www.census.gc.ca and return by May 10. Be included in the count.

Eat Your Pulses

Pulses are a vital source of plant-based proteins for people around the globe and can make a significant contribution to a healthy diet. They are an important Canadian agricultural crop, grown to meet domestic and international demand. In addition, pulses are leguminous plants that have nitrogen-fixing properties which can contribute to increasing soil fertility and have a positive impact on the environment.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) is joining other organizations worldwide to celebrate the 2016 International Year of Pulses and raise public awareness about the importance of pulses in our daily lives.

Our scientists are active in pulse research, currently studying the impact of pulse consumption on gut health and how they can be a valuable addition to crop rotations.

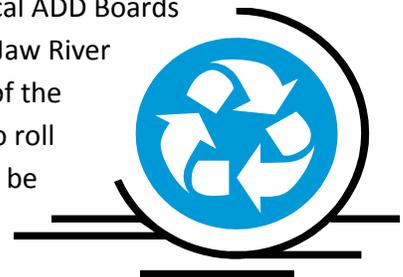
Learn more about pulses by watching the video, Eat your pulses



Simply Ag Solutions Results from 2015

Simply Ag Solutions, which has 17 collection sites around the province, reports a recycling total of 738,883 kilograms (1.62 million pounds) for the 2015 program year. That compares to 845,792 kilograms (1.87 million pounds) in 2014.

Collection sites were selected to provide even representation of the grain belt of Saskatchewan. Administration of the collection sites will be conducted through the local ADD Boards with exception of Moose Jaw which will be coordinated by the Moose Jaw River Watershed Stewards. Grain bag rollers have been purchased for each of the seven locations and will be made available to producers for their use to roll used bags and provide easier transport to the collection sites. Bags will be stored at the collection site until transportation to the recycler is arranged. For further information or to book the use of a grain bag roller, please contact the collection site closest to you.



Communities	Contact	Phone Number	Internet/Email
*Marshall	Richard Boser, RM Wilton	(306)821- 7103 (306)387-6244	http://www.rmwilton.ca/landfill.php
Prince Albert	Barry Swanson	(306)960-5299	barry.swanson@sasktel.net
Unity	RM of Round Valley	(306)228-2248	rm410@sasktel.net
*Saskatoon	Canadian Tarpaulin	(306)933-2343	info@cantarp.com
Humboldt	REACT	(306)682-1955	react@sasktel.net
Kelvington	Vanessa Ditter	(306)327-5733	kelvingtoncd@sasktel.net
Rush Lake	RM of Excelsior	(306)784-3121	rm166@sasktel.net
Moose Jaw, Mossbank & Milestone	Tammy Myers	(306)691-3399 (306)630-6534	tammy.myers@mjrriver.ca
Macoun & Hirsch	Barry Harris	(306)421-1614	broharris@sasktel.net
*Eatonia	Kelly Dearborn	(306)990-2098	www.4hirewelding.com
*Garrick	RM of Torch River	(306)276-2066	rm488@sasktel.net
*Raymore	Touchwood Hills Regional Landfill	(306)746-2222	thrl@sasktel.net
*Regina	Emterra	(306)775-9999	http://www.emterra.ca/emterra-waste-regina
*Wawota	Lower Souris Watershed	(306)452-3292	info@lowersourisriverwatershed.com

*Privately operated collection site, please call ahead for details.

APAS Mid-term

Have you been to meetings with no real results? Meetings that have taken far too long? That your voice was not heard? APAS has an answer.



A three part series for APAS

Representatives and their family members will occur starting in July. “Leading and Participating in Fast, Harmonious and Effective Meetings” will show techniques, procedures and skills that can reduce the feeling of a “time waste” for all involved. Come and join Jeanne Martinson at the APAS Mid-term to find methods by which you can contribute to a more efficient meeting.

Family members are welcome to attend this workshop on July 18 at the Saskatoon Inn.

Save the Dates:

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

July 19-21 - Ag in Motion (Langham)

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)