

Ag Matters

July 3, 2025



Bunge-Viterra Merger Crosses the Finish Line!



"The Bunge-Viterra merger has significant implications for Saskatchewan farmers. It's essential that oversight and accountability are prioritized to ensure fair market access and transportation reliability. We urge the Minister of Transportation to visit Saskatchewan and engage directly with producers to address these concerns."

— Bill Prybylski, APAS President

APAS acknowledges the completion of the merger between Bunge and Viterra, creating a major global agribusiness. While we recognize the potential scale of this new entity, it is crucial to ensure that Saskatchewan farmers are not negatively impacted by reduced competition in the marketplace.

To address concerns related to oversight and accountability, APAS urges Canada's Minister of Transportation to visit Saskatchewan and engage directly with producers and farm groups. We believe this conversation is critical in outlining next steps to ensure fair and transparent operations, particularly in areas like transportation, grain handling logistics, and market access.

Farmers must remain central in shaping how this merger impacts the agricultural supply chain. APAS is committed to advocating for solutions that protect farmers and promote equitable opportunities across the sector.

APAS Board Meeting and Outreach



The APAS Board hit the road to Fillmore SK for its June meeting, and it was packed with learning, laughter, and connection.

The group toured several local farms, including Leguee Farm (thanks for the fantastic tour, Sarah!), Stuart Chutters' Saskatoon berry farm (where those bread and jam appetizers absolutely stole the show—thanks, Stuart!), and the Bourke farm (big thanks to Chansi and Patrick for sharing their story!). These visits gave us a chance to see innovation in action and learn more about the challenges and opportunities facing local producers.

The event wrapped up with a community BBQ that brought everyone together. Special guests included Minister of Agriculture Daryl Harrison, MLA James Thorsteinson, CGC Commissioner Lonny McKague, and Operations Supervisor Judy Elias, who all joined us for good food, great company, and even better conversations about the future of Saskatchewan's agriculture.

A huge thank you to APAS VP Chris Procyk and his wife Paige for hosting everyone in Fillmore, for engaging the community and making the outreach memorable. Your hospitality and passion for farming were second to none!



Leguee Farm



Chutter Farm



Enjoying BBQ steak!



Minster Harrison with the most important folks at the BBQ!

Office of the Grocery Code of Conduct



APAS welcomes the launch of the Office of the Grocery Sector Code of Conduct (OGSCC). This vital resource paves the way for a more transparent, equitable grocery sector that benefits everyone, including Saskatchewan's farmers.

We commend Lactalis Canada and Empire Company Limited for leading by example as the OGSCC's first registrants, signaling a promising shift towards collaboration and transparency within the supply chain.

APAS supports this initiative and encourages participation across the industry to ensure the Canada Grocery Code truly serves the agricultural community.

Visit the Grocery Code of Conduct Website

Commercial Contracts



APAS is hearing growing frustrations from farmers across Saskatchewan following news that an agricultural retailer can't meet its product commitments.

There is also concerns being expressed that fertilizer suppliers may not honor agreed-upon fertilizer prices for fall deliveries due to "market volatility."

These issues echo the imbalance found in grain delivery contracts, where farmers are bound by rigid terms but face inconsistent accountability from other parties. Whether it's grain buyers, input suppliers, or equipment dealers, the risks continue to be unfairly placed on producers.

As our Grain Contract Modernization Initiative nears completion, APAS is committed to advocating for stronger protections and a more balanced business environment for farmers.

It's time to re-evaluate federal and provincial mechanisms to ensure they're adequate, enforced, and able to meet today's challenges.

Farmers deserve fair and reliable agreements and they shouldn't be another gamble in the already risky business of farming. Instead, they should act as a reliable foundation that supports farmers in planning and securing their operations as they navigate the industry's inherent risks.

Applications Open for the APAS Young Leaders Program

Young Leaders Program



Overview

The APAS Young Leaders Program brings together interested young farmers between the ages of 18 and 40 to:

- Enhance leadership skills.
- Deepen understanding of agriculture policy development and advocacy.
- Understand how policy decisions are influenced.
- Expand professional networks.
- Acquire governance training credentials.
- Enhance understanding of the socioeconomic impacts of agriculture within the Canadian context.

Participants will learn and contribute to various agricultural policy arenas, including grassroots policy development and advocacy. The program exposes participants to emerge as effective leaders at local, provincial, and national levels in agriculture.

Objectives

- Enhance participants' leadership skills.
- Provide board governance credentials.
- Provide experiential learning in governance processes and agriculture policy development.
- Demonstrate methods to influence government and industry decisions.
- Facilitate networking opportunities for broader agricultural insights in Saskatchewan and across Canada.
- Cultivate the next generation of agricultural and community leaders.

Program at a Glance

In collaboration with the APAS Board, prior participants, and other young producers, participants will engage in grassroots policy development by:

- Participating in APAS district meetings.
- Joining APAS Policy Committees and attending meetings.
- Attending APAS board meetings.
- Participating in the APAS Policy Conference.
- Participating in the resolution process at the APAS AGM.
- Presenting, advocating, and debating resolutions at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) AGM.
- Attending Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Agriculture Ministers meeting.
- Completing a comprehensive governance training certificate.
- Actively engage with elected officials.

Throughout the year, participants will witness and influence the resolution of current agricultural issues into actionable policy resolutions. These resolutions are subsequently transformed into formal submissions addressed to government and industry stakeholders. Participants will be immersed in formal board settings and hone their skills in presenting and advocating for resolutions during Annual General Meetings. Additionally, they will engage with elected officials from Saskatchewan and Canada, refining their ability to engage in impactful introductions and conversations to maximize influence and build relationships.

These activities offer a unique opportunity for participants to actively contribute to policy development and gain firsthand experience in agriculture governance and advocacy.

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Young Leaders Program



Optional Additions

Tailored to each cohort based on their experience and interests:

- Tour of sponsor offices.
- Tour of the Saskatchewan Legislature.
- Presence in booths at Agribition, Crop Production Show, Ag in Motion.
- Public speaking/media training.
- Attendance at the Saskatchewan Ag Conference and Women in Ag Conference.

Continuing Benefits

The network that the participants will have built throughout their time in the program will continue to benefit them in whatever role they choose to take on in agriculture. They will also have a strong understanding of board and committee mechanisms, governance, and importance making them a terrific candidate to be involved in other organizations or continue to work with APAS.

For participants from non-member RMs, they will be supported by one of their board members to present to their RM council the benefits of being an APAS member and their experience with the program helping to broaden the reach and influence of the APAS Young Leaders Program and showcase their involvement in leading the agriculture sector to their local RM Council.

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Timeline



August	Applications close August 31
September	Successful applicants announced
October	Onboarding with district meetings and board meeting
December	AGM: Welcome mixer and attendance at AGM and board meeting
January	Board governance certifications, policy committee selection and engagement
February	CFA: Attend CFA AGM in Ottawa and APAS board meeting
March	APAS Policy Conference
June	Board, District and Committee Meetings
July	CFA Board and FPT Agriculture Ministers meeting

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[Apply Here](#)

APAS in the News

Farmers and Food Prices Report (July 2) SaskToday.ca

Drought Support (July 2) Farms.com

U.S. Trade and Tariffs (June 30) cbc.ca

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