

# 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.

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## 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.

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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.
- Engage in grassroots work.
- Achieve governance training credentials.
- Enhance understanding of the socioeconomic impacts of agriculture within the Canadian context.

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

### Program at a Glance

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

- Participating in APAS District meetings.
- Joining APAS Board meetings.
- Attending APAS Policy Conference.
- Participating in the resolution process at the APAS AGM.
- Assessing, evaluating, and initiating resolutions at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) AGM.
- Attending Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) Agriculture Ministers meetings.
- Completing a comprehensive governance training certificate.
- Networking and engaging with elected officials.

Throughout the year, participants will witness and influence the translation of current agricultural issues into actionable policy resolutions. These resolutions are subsequently considered by the APAS Board and presented to the government and industry stakeholders. Participants will be involved in the development of these resolutions, as well as presenting and advocating for resolutions during Annual General Meetings. Additionally, they will engage with elected officials and other agriculture stakeholders, giving them the 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 agricultural governance and advocacy.

### Objectives

- Enhance participant learning 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.
- Contribute the next generation of agricultural and community leaders.

[apas.ca](http://apas.ca)

## Young Leaders Program



### Optional Additions

Tailored to each cohort based on their experience and interests:

- Visit to a government office.
- Tour of the Saskatchewan Legislature.
- Presence in boards at Agribition, Crop Production, and AgriFood.
- Public speaking/media training.
- Attendance at the Sask Young Ag Conference.

### Continuing Benefits

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

For participants finishing the Young Leaders Program, it will be supported by a list of their local members to present to their RM council the benefits of being an APAS member and their experience with the program, including the positive 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



**APAS**

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
April	Board, District and Committee Meetings
June	CFA Board and FPT Agriculture Ministers meeting
July	July

[apas.ca](http://apas.ca)

[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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