
Ag Matters

December 19, 2024



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This is the last edition of Ag Matters in 2024! The next issue will be January 16, 2025!

Happy Holidays!

APAS WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 25 - JAN 2.

On behalf of the **APAS** board & staff
we wish you a holiday season
filled with **PEACE & JOY.**



As the festive season draws near, we wish to extend our gratitude and warmest wishes to you and your loved ones. May this Christmas bring you happiness, peace, and prosperity.

This year, we've journeyed together through challenges and triumphs, and your continued support has been our greatest gift. As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the new one, we are filled with hope and excitement for what's to come.

May your holiday season be bright, filled with the spirit of love, and the joy of togetherness. Let's cherish these moments and look forward to making more memories in the year ahead.

Thank you for being a part of our community. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Throughout 2024, APAS's effort has spanned a wide spectrum of agricultural policy issues, emphasizing the need for sustainable solutions and equitable policies to ensure the prosperity of Saskatchewan's agricultural producers.

Some of the 2024 Legislative Bills Impacting Agriculture:

House of Commons Legislation:

Bill C-234 - Carbon Tax Exemption - Needs a push to get over the finish line! Seeks to exempt grain drying activities and inputs from the federal carbon tax.

November 7! Empowers farmers and independent repair shops to access the necessary resources for fixing agricultural machinery, and ensuring shortline manufacturer's equipment is allowed to connect to major OEM equipment promoting more sustainability and efficiency for producers.

Bill C-293 - Pandemic Preparedness Act - amendments required. Continue advocating for the removal or amendment of language that could unduly regulate and potentially phase out vital components of animal agriculture.

Senate Legislation:

Bill S-243: Climate Aligned Finance Act - amendments and clarification needed. Concern relating the potential impacts on producers' access to farm loans and financial services.

Bill S-287 - Elimination of Interswitching - needs to be defeated! More rail competition is needed, not less!

There's more...



Rail Transportation Competition

Rail Freight Rates, the Maximum Revenue Entitlement, service standards, and Interswitching

APAS has been an advocate for equitable rail freight rates and improved interswitching regulations, valuing the need for cost efficiency and enhanced competition in rail services for farmers.

The \$80M Rail Carbon Surcharge! Why should farmers pay the railways carbon tax?

Reduced competition could mean \$800 Million loss for farmers and rural Saskatchewan!

The merger's implications on market competition and farm gate prices was a key focus 2024, for the protection of producer interests.



Water Management - some regions were dealing with too much water, while others had too little.

APAS and others worked with the SK Water Security Agency towards a detailed and comprehensive water management strategy, emphasizing thorough mapping, science-based decisions, clear legal guidelines, economic support for those managing water, and the optimization of water conservation and quality.

Co-hosting the Grain Act Summit with SaskWheat

A significant highlight of APAS's engagement this year was co-hosting the Grain Act Summit alongside SaskWheat. This initiative aimed at driving essential discussions and reforms regarding the grain sector, focusing on timely topics like modernizing grain contracts, export sales data transparency, producer payment protections, and licensing.



Wildlife Damage Compensation Reform

APAS has actively pursued better management and compensation methods for wildlife damage, advocating for policies that provide fair restitution and address the concerns of affected producers.

Environment. Can't wait for the results!

There was a lot more but... As we get ready to turn the page to a new year, we do so with gratitude for the lessons learned and excitement for the opportunities ahead.

Looking ahead to 2025, there are challenges we will face, trade comes to mind, but with challenges come the opportunities to grow, innovate, and lead with the kind of purpose that ignites change and drives us forward.

Thank you for a remarkable year. We can't wait to embark on the next one with you.



APAS in the News

[APAS New Leadership](#) (Dec 11)

[Rail fees, farmland ownership discussed at APAS general meeting](#) (Dec 11)

[SaskAg Today Roundtable - Bill Prybylski, APAS New President](#) (Dec 6)

[Bill Prybylski Elected New APAS President](#) (Dec 5)

The Timing Couldn't Be Better to **BECOME A MEMBER**

Join Without Risk: Your Satisfaction, Our Guarantee!

Start 2025 with a decision to invest in protecting what farmers have worked hard to build by becoming an APAS member. Your RM is not just joining an association; you're investing in a partnership that actively works to safeguard and improve our farming future.

It's an investment in stronger representation, broader resources, and a shared vision for a thriving agricultural sector in Saskatchewan.

APAS MEMBERSHIP - IT MATTERS TO YOU and TO US!

We're so confident in the value that APAS membership provides, we're offering an unprecedented **MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE** to all new members. **It's your chance to experience the benefits risk-free!**

Connect with Us:

For more details, feel free to reach out directly to Curtis Hemming.

Call: 306-789-7774

Email: **Curtis Hemming**

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Ag Matters

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we are doing in
Saskatchewan's
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