

APAS President calls for immediate railway costing review

February 26, 2016 – For Immediate Release - Norm Hall, President of the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan responded to the Canadian Transportation Agency Review report tabled in the House of Commons on February 25 by calling on the Federal Government to undertake a complete costing review of the railways.

Grain transportation is an essential service for Saskatchewan producers. "We need to better understand how railway costs have changed since 2001," Hall stated. "We also need to ensure that the rate producers pay is fair and that it provides a fair return to railways so that they can make necessary investments. A full costing review was an election promise from the Liberal party in the federal election and that's the best place for the government to start."

Hall also welcomed the consultation on the CTA report announced by Transport Minister Marc Garneau.

"We will be closely studying the CTA Review recommendations to determine whether they will ensure cost effective and reliable rail service in the future and we will continue to work with other farm and commodity organizations to respond to the government consultations, and defend the interests of farmers" Hall concluded.

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APAS is Saskatchewan's general farm organization formed to provide farmers and ranchers with a democratically elected, grassroots, non-partisan, producer organization based on rural municipal boundaries. As the united voice of thousands of agricultural producers in Saskatchewan, we strive to represent the views of a wide variety of agricultural stakeholders in order to form comprehensive policies that can benefit all sectors of society.

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