



APAS endorses Saskatchewan Climate Change Strategy

Calls for the creation of a voluntary carbon offset system

December 4, 2017 – For Immediate Release –The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan endorses the principles announced today in the Provincial Government’s Climate Change Strategy.

“Our members strongly believe that agriculture is key to providing solutions to managing carbon emissions,” said APAS President Todd Lewis. “We also strongly reject the imposition of a carbon tax on our sector, because it will only raise our costs, without tackling the urgent problem of climate change.”

APAS fully supports the creation of a voluntary carbon offset system that would recognize agricultural carbon management. As Lewis points out, on cropland alone, Saskatchewan producers sequester 8.5 million additional tonnes of carbon annually, and more is sequestered on pastures, wetlands and forested areas.

“Canada can lead the world in designing offset and incentive policies that preserve and expand carbon sinks, and this strategy is a good start to having this conversation,” he said, adding, “APAS also supports increased research on plant genetics and agricultural technologies that will expand our ability to sequester carbon and improve efficiency.”

Lewis concluded that Saskatchewan producers have experienced the impacts of flooding and drought, and APAS strongly supports policies that will assist our industry to adapt and that build resilience in rural communities.

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For further information and to arrange an interview, please contact:

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Background: APAS is Saskatchewan’s general farm organization – formed to provide farmers and ranchers with a democratically elected, grassroots, non-partisan, producer-run organization based on rural municipal boundaries. As the united voice of thousands of agricultural producers and ranchers 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. APAS is a member of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.