



APAS opposes imposition of carbon tax on agriculture

October 4, 2016 - For Immediate Release – “The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan is categorically opposed to the federal imposition of a carbon tax on agricultural producers,” said APAS President Norm Hall today.

“Federal decision makers must understand that farmers cannot pass along increased costs from carbon taxes on our inputs to our customers, we just don’t set our prices. Agricultural is a low margin business and raising the price of our inputs simply reduces our margins and makes our farms less viable, without reducing carbon emissions,” he continued.

Hall pointed out that producers in Saskatchewan have been world leaders in developing management practices that offset and reduce our carbon footprint. Research demonstrates that zero-tillage agriculture in Saskatchewan sequesters 8.5 million additional tons of carbon annually, which is the equivalent of 1 million cars.

“Producers have worked hard to implement farm practices that reduce energy consumption and sequester carbon. As the largest sector of private land managers in Canada, we would need to see these carbon offsets efforts recognized, and we need to avoid tax measures that threaten the future viability of our family farms,” Hall concluded.

On October 5, President Hall is presenting to the House of Commons Finance Committee when they meet in Regina for pre-budget consultations. Saskatchewan producers concerns with the federal government’s carbon announcement will be a key message in his presentation.

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For more information
Norm Hall
306-530-3886

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.