



## **APAS supports reference to Saskatchewan Court of Appeal on carbon tax**

Calls for policy that creates support for producer carbon management instead of tax penalties

*April 25, 2018 – For Immediate Release* – The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan supports the provincial government’s reference to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal on the constitutional status of Federal Carbon Tax policy.

“Our members strongly believe that carbon taxes do not work for agriculture,” said APAS President Todd Lewis. “Producers are not able to pass along increased costs of production to our customers, we use every possible technology to reduce our energy costs, and the Federal Government have not been very clear on their understanding of this basic agricultural economic reality.”

APAS submissions to the Federal Government’s Carbon backstop consultations emphasized that agricultural producers currently sequester millions of tonnes of carbon on the landscape, and that climate change policy needed to create support for producer carbon management instead of tax penalties.

APAS believes that the Saskatchewan Climate Change Strategy strikes a good balance in recognizing the potential of agriculture and in avoiding additional farm costs that will also fail to help address national Greenhouse Gas reduction targets.

“Current Federal Carbon Backstop legislation would only apply to a handful of Provinces but would impact 40% of Canada’s farmland here in Saskatchewan,” continued Lewis. “We have many concerns about how Federal law could negatively impact our farmers and ranchers. We support the Province’s request to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal for clarification on the constitutionality of Federal carbon law.”

-30-

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

Colleen Hennan

Communications and Community Relations Coordinator

Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan

(306) 789-7774 ext. 6

chennan@apas.ca

**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.