



## **APAS expresses serious concerns about CN labour situation**

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The President of the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan is expressing grave concern about the strike announced by Canadian National Railways employees.

“Prairie farmers do not get paid unless we can ship our products to port, “ Lewis explained,” We have experienced a tremendously difficult production season on top of falling commodity prices due to trade issues in our major markets. Any additional factor which threatens our cash flow presents a grave risk to our operations.” Lewis also noted that delays now would disrupt the remainder of the winter shipping season when grain shipments typically face delays due to weather.

Lewis pointed out that lost or delayed sales will have an impact far beyond the farm gate. “ One in eight Canadian jobs depend on agriculture. When our sales slow down, it impacts businesses and jobs all across Canada.

Lewis concluded with a call to the Federal Government to take immediate action to keep the railway operating. “ Farmers are innocent bystanders in this labour dispute. We have ships waiting at Canadian ports to load grain and we need our government to take all measures necessary to ensure that products can move.”

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For more information or 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.