

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Election 2024 - APAS Outlines Policy Priorities to Secure Saskatchewan's Agricultural Future

Regina, SK – The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) today unveiled its key policy priorities for the October 28, 2024, Saskatchewan election, focusing on program enhancements, business competitiveness, and infrastructure renewal. These priorities aim to position Saskatchewan agricultural producers, rural communities, and farm and ranch families for future success.

"Our province's agricultural sector is a cornerstone of our economy, and it's essential that we have policies in place to support its continued growth and prosperity," said Ian Boxall, President of APAS. "These priorities address critical issues facing producers, from program enhancements to infrastructure development."

Key Policy Priorities:

1. Farm Program Enhancements:

- **Crop Insurance:** APAS is advocating for improvements to crop insurance coverage options, premium transparency, and adaptability to modern agricultural challenges.
- **Support for Young Producers:** The association is proposing targeted financial support for young farmers to address capital requirements, market volatility, and high operating costs.
- **Livestock Revenue Programs:** APAS is calling for the creation of a comprehensive costshared insurance option for livestock producers to provide financial security and stability.

2. Business Competitiveness:

- **Provincial Sales Tax (PST):** APAS is seeking revisions to PST policies to ensure competitive operating costs and reduce administrative burdens for farmers.
- **Modernization of the Agricultural Implements Act:** The association is proposing updates to the act to address producers right to repair, consumer protection, technology protection measures, and access to repair and diagnostic tools.

3. Infrastructure Development:

• **Power and Gas Upgrades:** APAS is advocating for government-backed financial support to facilitate farm gas and electrical upgrades, ensuring access to modern agricultural practices.

"These policy priorities reflect the needs and concerns of Saskatchewan's agricultural producers," said Boxall "By working together with government, we can create a more sustainable and prosperous future for our sector."

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