



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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APAS Media Statement on Federal Intervention in the Railway Labour Dispute

REGINA, SK — The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) expresses its gratitude to Labour Minister Steven MacKinnon for his decisive action in employing Section 107 of the Canada Labour Code to mandate binding arbitration in the ongoing railway labour dispute. This critical intervention has provided a necessary solution to end the recent service disruptions that have significantly impacted agricultural producers across the country.

The swift government action taken by Minister MacKinnon not only aids in the immediate resumption of rail operations but also underscores the importance of maintaining a stable and efficient supply chain, essential for the agriculture sector and the overall health of the Canadian economy.

APAS President Ian Boxall adds, "I commend the Government's recent actions to intervene in the rail dispute, but it highlights a greater need. To truly safeguard our agricultural sector and the nation's economy from future disruptions, we call on the federal government to create a much stronger preventative conflict resolution system. By developing a dependable and proactive framework within our critical infrastructure supply chain, we can greatly reduce economic chaos and uncertainty, while bolstering the dependability of our products in international markets."

While we appreciate the resolution facilitated by this decision, APAS encourages both the railways and their respective unions to continue their efforts to negotiate in good faith to reach a comprehensive and lasting agreement. It is in the interest of all parties involved, as well as the broader community, that a harmonious and constructive relationship is maintained.

APAS remains committed to collaborating with all stakeholders to advocate for reliable rail service and to support our hardworking agricultural producers throughout Saskatchewan and beyond.

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