

SASKATCHEWAN Farmers' Voice

FEBRUARY 2019 EDITION



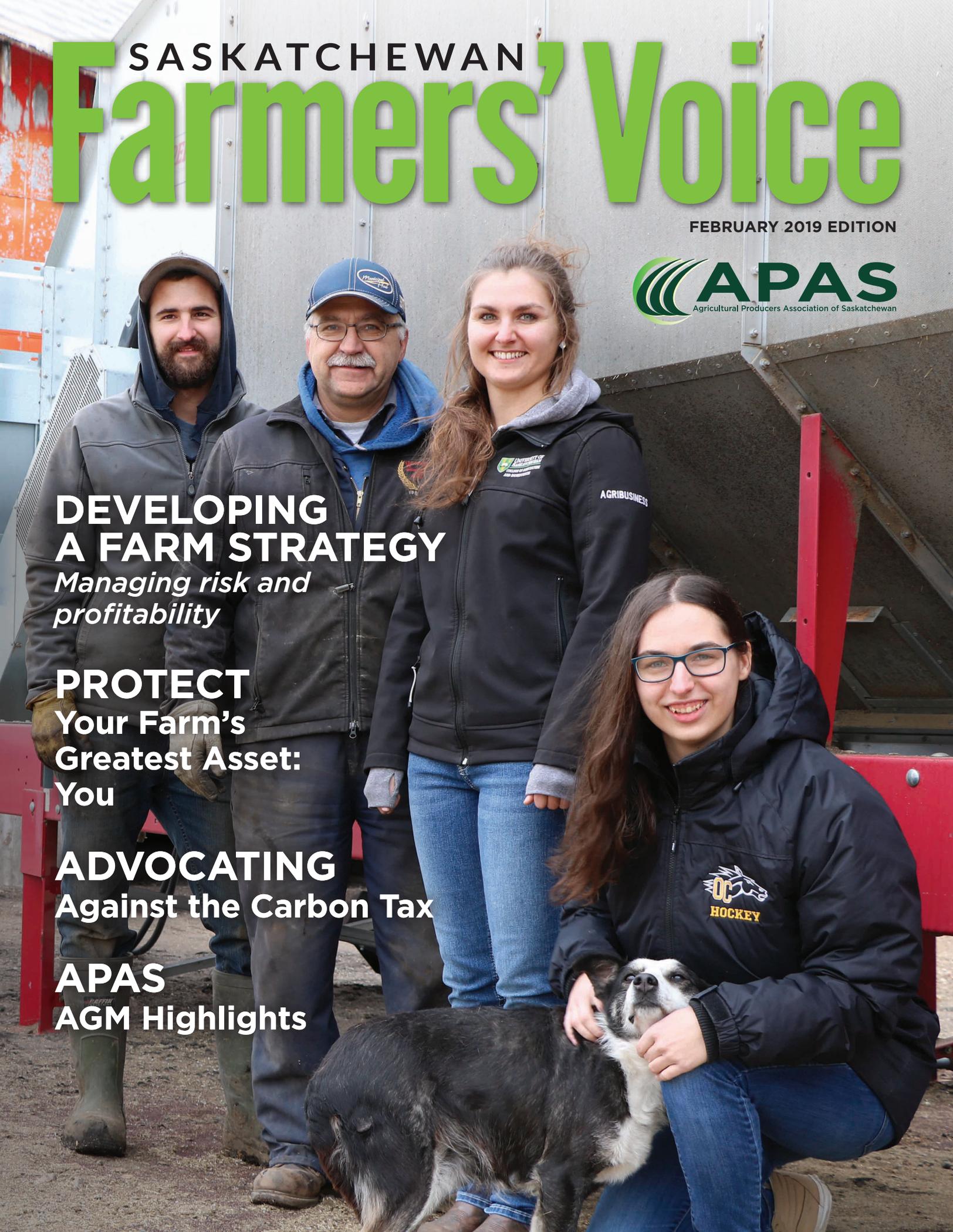
DEVELOPING A FARM STRATEGY

*Managing risk and
profitability*

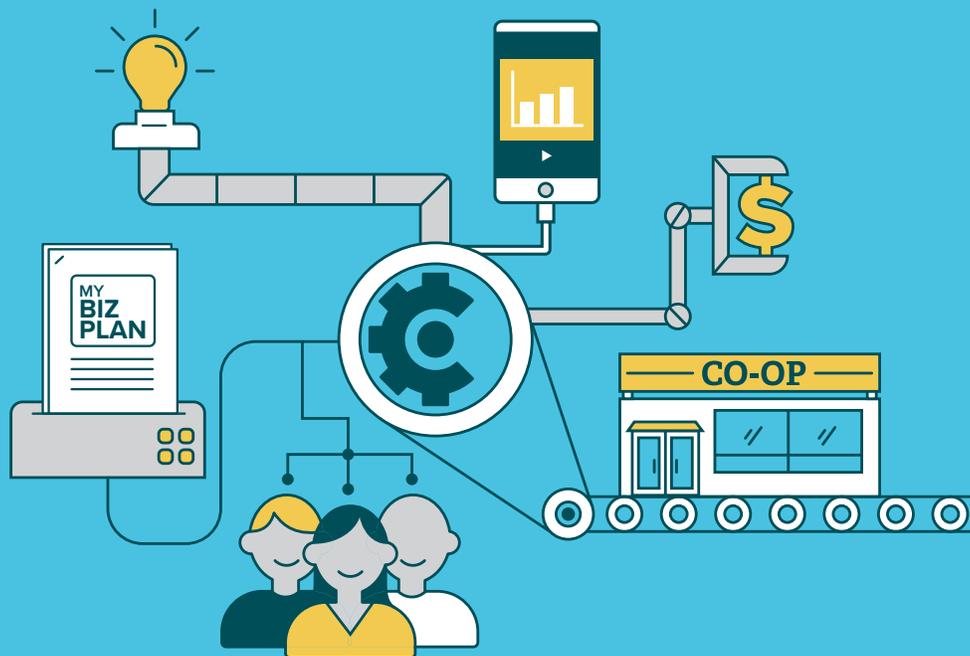
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Advocacy in Action

BY TODD LEWIS



At APAS we are often asked what is being done to improve or change a given policy or problem. Just asking the question can be the start of an advocacy effort that can bring attention to an issue, and bring positive change for our industry.

Here are some recent examples of issues where APAS has been working on behalf of producers.

Livestock Tax Deferral

This past year was very dry in many parts of Saskatchewan, especially the southern half of the Province. Feed shortages became apparent and the cost of purchasing feed began to rise. It was recognized early on that in some cases cattle producers would have to downsize their herd to be able to match the supply of feed and water they had available.

APAS distributed several media releases and did a number of media interviews to bring attention to the ongoing problem. We began to lobby the federal government to implement the Livestock Deferral Program.

This program allows producers who have had to sell part of their herd to de-

fer that income into the next tax year. This allows those producers to maintain that income until they are able to replenish their herd, when feed and water hopefully becomes more available.

One part of our ask was that the drought was widespread and that the entire province should be designated, and we asked that the announcement be made as early as possible to provide clarity to producers as they made these difficult decisions.

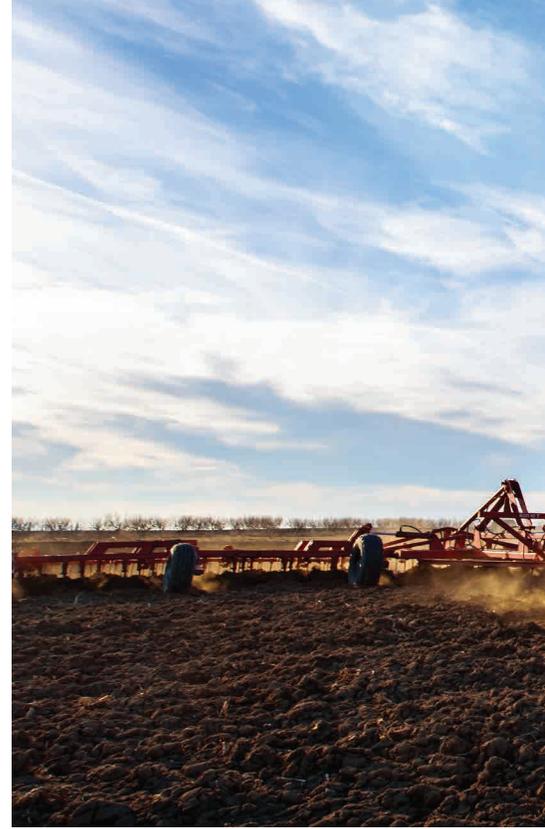
We began to engage with the federal civil service to better understand how the program is designed and the mechanisms that trigger it. Letters and requests were sent to the Federal Minister, we spoke to the Province as well as other livestock groups to put forward a common message.

The results of these efforts led to an earlier-than-usual initial program being announced and 75% of the Province being designated eligible. APAS is continuing to work on this file, and as recently as January 2019, an unusual third announcement of eligible areas was announced. The program needs to become more predictable and transparent, and APAS continues to work with government officials to meet this goal.

Carbon Tax

APAS decided to seek intervenor status in the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal reference case to stand up for APAS members, over 15,000 farmers and ranch families of Saskatchewan.

Agricultural producers do not set their own prices and can't pass along additional costs. Carbon taxes will have a disproportionate impact on our industry, and on rural Saskatchewan. As producers, we already look for every possible cost savings, because we can't pass those costs along.



The premise of the Federal carbon tax is that it will change consumer and commercial behaviour through a price signal. Our argument to the Justices is that regulation of commerce in Saskatchewan is the sole jurisdiction of the Provincial government.

We still don't know the full cost impact of a carbon tax on producers, because the federal government's cost estimates do not include the impact of indirect costs to agriculture. These include heating barns and drying grain, road transportation of crops and livestock and inputs, rail transportation, fertilizer, and other crop inputs, and manufactured goods.

Just as an example, if you used 400-600 GJ of gas or propane to dry grain this fall in Alberta, the provincial carbon levy would have added \$600-950 to your costs. This isn't a voluntary expense. If you don't dry wet grain, it spoils.

When it's cold, we can't just decide to turn off the heat in livestock buildings.

Most of our product is exported to world markets and our crops have to travel long distances by truck and then rail.

The Parliamentary Budget office study in 2017 calculated a full pass through of



carbon taxes on nitrogen fertilizer prices at about \$6 per acre for wheat.

All of these costs will add up, and the Federal Department of Agriculture admits that there are few alternate tech-

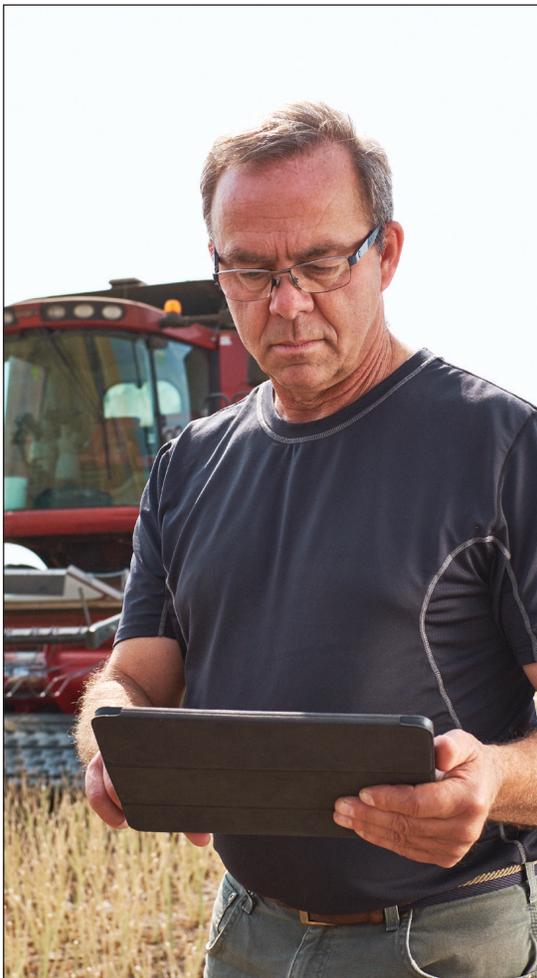
nologies that we can switch to. And if you reduce our financial ability to adopt new technologies, it defeats the purpose of the carbon tax.

That's why we decided to take the time

and money to speak for our members in front of the Court of Appeal.

Finally, agricultural producers are stewards. We manage lands that store billions of tonnes of carbon, and we sequester millions of tonnes of carbon. There is a great opportunity, using science, to expand what we can do to manage carbon emissions using natural processes.

These are all important issues that APAS has spent time on over the last number of months. The lobbying efforts on behalf of Producers on these issues and many others has "moved the needle" on farm policy. APAS gets results, we are seen as a group that puts forward sound policy initiatives and gives good advice when asked for it. Producers need a strong voice and agriculture is a major part of this Province and Country. APAS is at many of the tables that influence policy. Thank you to all of our membership for your continuing support of these efforts.



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Protecting Your Farm's Greatest Asset: You

APAS adds Injury and Overhead personal insurance option to member benefits package

BY KIM KENNETT

It happened March 6, 2018, after a big snowfall. Norm Hall, a grain farmer and APAS Representative from Wynyard, had climbed a ladder to remove the snow from the satellite dish so his wife, Fern, would be able to watch TV.

Norm remembers getting ready to take a swing at the dish with a stick and seeing the ladder slide under the eavestrough. About five minutes later he woke up on the ground trying to roll away from searing pain in his back. Norm had fallen, hit his head on the roof and knocked himself unconscious. Fortunately, Fern was outside and came running when she heard the commotion.

In the hours that followed, Norm was in and out of consciousness. Even though he could still move, the pain was debilitating. Norm was taken to hospital and treated for five broken ribs and a nasty cut above one eye that required stitches. With painkillers and a bit of TLC, in no time Norm was walking, eating and joking around, and was discharged.

It was not to be that simple. The next day he was resting at home and appeared to be doing fine, but suddenly developed a fever that spiked at 40C.

The fever was caused by an infection Norm had contracted, probably while in the hospital. It left him in excruciating pain that required dependence on strong medication and a return stay at the hospital. After three weeks, the pain and infection were under control and he was able to return home.

The road to recovery was a long one. "The accident put a lot of pressure on my family; I must have looked horrible, but they didn't say anything," he says.

It wasn't until the third week of April – six weeks after his accident – that Norm felt well enough to do a bit of work on the farm. His first effort was helping one of the hired men put a hydraulic jack under a truck. It completely exhausted him.

Those first few days were difficult; he could only work a few hours at a time. And all he could manage were the "gofer" jobs. It took Norm until the beginning of May before he was able to work a full day.

Norm had no accident insurance. One of his saving graces was that he co-manages his farm with his brother, Ernest, and they have three hired men.

But his injury and absence had a definite impact on the farm. A lot of the farm management decisions got put aside. Opportunities to ship grain got overlooked because he wasn't on top of his game. And he struggled to find the energy to keep the farm accounting up to date, particularly paying bills at the end of April when he was going through withdrawal from his pain medication.

His brother was focused on shouldering as much as he could to help out, and Norm knew he was worried about getting the crop in without him. Fortunately, Norm's two sons were able to take time off work to seed. So although Norm wasn't able to contribute in the same capacity, they were able to make do, at least during the period of time he wasn't capable of managing from his hospital bed or armchair.

Without his support network (his wife, brother, sons and the hired men), Norm would have had to rely on neighbours to



help him out or hire another person. And how do you find someone experienced and reliable to fill in on short notice? What if your operation has livestock that must be fed and looked after?

Norm's own experience has made him realize how important injury and accident insurance is, especially for farmers who don't have family members or employees to help. Within a year after his accident, he was looking into insurance for himself, his brother and their staff.

"Having a couple of minor accidents gets a guy thinking," Norm says. "And insurance is a small price to pay for financial peace of mind."

To this day, Norm counts himself lucky. He knows it could have been much worse, and his farm didn't suffer that much. He's able to be just as active as he always was and has no permanent injuries, although the cold seems to bother him more. He now wears lined overalls in his shop. And he certainly makes sure ladders are better anchored before he gets on one.

Farmers, their families, as well as farm workers in Saskatchewan and Canada as a whole experience a high rate of acute traumatic injury associated with farm work and the farm environment. According to the Canadian Agriculture Safety Association (CASA), agriculture ranks as the fourth most hazardous industry in Canada with respect to rates of fatal injury.

Since 2014, as a member-organization of The Co-operators Group, APAS has been offering farmers insurance through the Member Benefits Program that includes exclusive coverage and savings. The program was designed in collaboration with members like APAS to provide added value to their members to meet individual insurance needs. Any farmer who belongs to a rural municipality that is a member of APAS is eligible. (See pages 22-23 for the full listing of APAS member RMs)

Beginning March 1, 2019, in partnership with The Co-operators, APAS members will have access to income and overhead insurance protection for accidents and injuries through The Edge Benefits. The EDGE has customized a base protection package for APAS members that's affordable and scalable according to each farmer's needs.

"The inclusion of accident and injury insurance is a nice complement to what we already offer," comments Jamie Bohach, Director, Member and Key Client Relations for The Co-operators. "Farmers can pick and choose from the menu of insurance options."

"Every year there's a story about a farmer who gets injured and his neighbours rally together to help," Bohach says. "While farmers are part of a strong network, not everyone has the same access to the network and every farmer should consider alternatives to keep their farm operation going in the event of an accident or injury."

The Edge Benefits Inc., in which The Co-operators has controlling interest, specializes in income protection products for small business owners who are self-employed and don't qualify for group insurance. The income protection package the EDGE is offering for APAS members consists of three products: loss of income due to an injury, accidental death and dismemberment, and a fracture accident plan, for example, if a farmer breaks an arm.

There is also the option of buying business overhead insurance to cover ongoing expenses related to running a farm operation. This includes costs for a replacement farmer to come in and help while the farmer is off work.



"The goal is to provide farmers with a really cost-effective base package for as little as \$2/day or just under \$60/month. In addition, there is a 10% discount for APAS members. These packages are completely customizable to suit every farmer's individual needs," says Scott Moffatt, Chief Business Development officer of The Edge Benefits. "Our goal is to make it straightforward and easy to apply for," he adds, noting that applicants do not need to answer any medical questions.

"In addition," Moffatt says, "we are also making our Health and Dental program available at a discount to APAS members who purchase any other Edge plan. This additional coverage is designed to help manage day-to-day medical expenses."

He adds: "Currently, very few farmers have income or business overhead protection insurance. People typically think of insurance as a way of protecting their physical assets like equipment, but don't always consider insuring their most important asset – the people, or in this case, themselves and their farm hands."

As Norm Hall says, "They're called accidents for a reason; they're not 'on-purposes.' It all happens so fast, and it can affect you for a couple of months – or the rest of your life."

To find out more about the expanded benefit programs, see the Edge Benefits' pages in the Member Rewards area of the APAS website at apas.ca. You can also contact The Edge Benefits directly at 1-877-531-EDGE (3343) or apas@edgebenefits.com for more information and to locate your nearest Co-operators advisor.



Developing a farm strategy

Bill Prybylski shares what he has learned about farm profitability over the years

BY DELANEY SEIFERLING | PHOTOS BY COLLEEN HENNAN

Bill Prybylski has been farming since the early 1980s.

But despite the many years of experience and knowledge he has under his belt, he still faces tough times in his business.

"My worst year on the farm was probably 2012," says Bill, who runs a 14,000-acre mixed operation in Willowbrook, just west of Yorkton, with his son, brother and nephews.

"We lost a lot of money that year. I spent a lot of time with my banker trying to figure out how to make it work. Fortunately, we were able to get through it."

Challenges such as these are a reminder that farming isn't an easy job, says Bill.

That's because, despite all the advances that have been made in the industry over the past four decades, the greatest challenge producers face remains the same: ensuring that their operations remain profitable despite the wide range of uncontrollable factors that directly impact their business.

"We need to be able to do what we can to ensure profitability, otherwise we just can't do it anymore," he says.

Producers know these uncontrollable factors well: weather, world markets and government policy.





Neil, Bill, Tracy, Amy and Mary Prybylski

But Bill has seen another one emerge in recent years.

"It's scary how much our cost of production has changed relative to our gross income – that margin gets narrower and narrower," he says.

"Because of input costs we can gross a lot of money growing higher yields and higher quality, more diverse crops but once we factor in inputs costs, those margins are getting tighter and tighter. "

Mitigating risk

Luckily there are strategies that producers can employ to help them navigate and mitigate the factors that threaten their farms, says Bill.

He has employed several on the farm, although for him risk management isn't a year-to-year, formalized plan. It's part

of the overall, ongoing philosophy of the business.

And one that he was taught from a young age.

Off-farm income

When Bill first started farming with his dad in the early 1980s, they experienced a period of extremely dry weather, which hit their operations hard.

Luckily, Bill was also working off-farm at the time. He had spent several years becoming certified as a welder and then gained work experience in Estevan. This off-farm income helped supplement the farm finances during the dire years and he was grateful to his dad for guiding him down that road.

"He told me, if you want to farm you have to have something to fall back on," he says.

Now, not only has the off-farm income been critical at times throughout his career, such as those early years, but his welding skills have also come in quite handy on the farm.

Bill has since passed this advice on to his own son, who has also become a certified welder and worked in the trade for a few years before becoming a partner in the family farm not long ago.

Production diversity

Another strategy that Bill has employed over the years to mitigate risk is to diversify the farm's crops and products and to adapt them to the growing conditions in his area as much as possible.

"In our area we have a shorter growing season than other southern parts of the province, so we make sure we grow crops suitable to our shorter climate," he says. "It's also wetter where we are so we grow a lot of canola in our area as opposed to the southern part of the province where they grow more durum and lentils."

Bill and his partners also closely monitor the weather and are always willing to change their seeding plans as needed. And as their operations grew to 14,000 acres, it became critical to diversify land use, which is why they also manage a 200-head commercial cow/calf operation.

“ Because of this new generation of young professionals getting into the industry, it's more important than ever that today's veteran producers do what they can to ensure that we are setting them up for success. ”



"We can't afford to not have cattle," Bill says. "We have enough marginal land on our farm that we need to have cattle to make use of it. That part of the operation will sometimes help offset losses in the grain side and vice versa."

Business risk management programs

Saskatchewan producers have access to a range of business risk management programs, offered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, to help them mitigate risk and maintain profitability. Bill says these can be helpful tools.

"These are definitely a big part of managing risk and having security. When I

first started farming this was a big asset to my operation."

However, he advises producers to evaluate each of the programs individually. Bill believes some of the programs have become more challenging to qualify for since he began farming, and are not always economically sound.

“ You deal with things as you can. There are things that you can and can't fix. You have to learn to accept the things you can't fix and just live with them. ”

For example, he opted out of the Agristability program after receiving no coverage during some of the most challenging years on his farm – 2012 and 2014.

"Our reference margin started declining in 2010 because of excess moisture so we didn't even get enough of a payment out of the program to pay our registration fee those years. We saw no benefit to it after that. It just didn't make any sense for us to be in a program that didn't cover our needs."

However, he still enrolls in the Crop Insurance program each year, to help offset risks of production issues due to early frost, too much moisture, and other weather issues.

Farm policy

Another factor that can have a major impact on producers' businesses is farm policy, which can seem outside their control.

"Sometimes we have to rely on the people making policy and hope they have our interests in mind when making that policy," Bill says.

But groups such as APAS give producers an outlet to have a voice when it comes to regulatory issues that affect them, he says.

This is why he decided to become an APAS representative for his rural municipality several years ago. Since then he has been pleased with the progress APAS has made on policy issues and the growing influence the organization has had for the agriculture industry.

"They've really become recognized as a serious, credible and respected voice," he says.

Because of this Bill decided to volunteer more of his time over the years, becoming a Director two years ago and, as of late last year, one of two Vice Presidents of the Board. He currently sits on the

Economics and Trade Committee and the Governance Committee.

"If we see something that isn't right, we do what we can to make sure that policy is being created that is beneficial to those affected by it."

"We do what we can to make sure things are the best they can be."

“It’s scary how much our cost of production has changed relative to our gross income – that margin gets narrower and narrower.”

Managing stress

Farming can be extremely stressful, Bill says, which is why it's important for producers to be mindful of their limitations.

"You deal with things as you can. There are things that you can and can't fix. You have to learn to accept the things you can't fix and just live with them."

For example, you can't change or control the weather, but you can learn to work with it by growing crops suited to the climate in your area.

You also can't change or control foreign policy, such as the trade issues that affected Canadian pea exports last year, but you can adjust your cropping plans when these issues arise.

Finally, Bill has an approach to dealing with stress in business and in life – stay positive no matter what.

"I've always lived with the philosophy that the sun is always going to come up tomorrow. When things get tough my personal life experience has always taught me that things may look bad but they're going to get better."

Be adaptable

Every farm is different and risk management strategies should be adapted accordingly, says Bill.

He has learned this through his own experience.

"We have tried a lot of different ways of doing things on our farm and have seen

what has worked and what hasn't."

He advises being cautious with new business strategies.

"Generally we try to stick with things we know and if we are going to try something new, we do it on small trial scale first – you don't want to bet the whole farm on a new technology or practice.

Ease into it instead and make sure things you do are going to work for your farm."

Appreciate the opportunity to farm

Despite all the challenges he has faced, Bill is quick to say that he wouldn't have done anything differently.

"I wouldn't want to live anywhere else. We still need to make a living, but there are so many benefits to living on the farm and raising kids there."

Growing up on the farm established strong values in his four children, Bill says, and this gave him greater peace of mind as a single dad (his wife passed away 14 years ago).

And it appears his kids have inherited his love of agriculture. Although Bill always tried to give them a realistic view of how wonderful, yet challenging farming can be, they have all remained involved in agriculture to some degree.

His oldest daughter Mary (26) is an accountant who does the bookkeeping for the farm. His son Neil (24) recently came back to work as a partner on the farm. Daughter Amy (22) studied agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan and youngest daughter Tracy (20) studied agriculture at Olds College on a hockey scholarship (although now she is interested in changing her focus to film and media).

Due to this new generation of young professionals getting into the industry, it's more important than ever that to-

day's veteran producers do what they can to ensure that we are setting them up for success, explains Bill.

This is why he will continue his work with APAS.

He also offers the following advice to the next generation:

"Be patient. Take advantage of opportunities as they arise. Be prepared for things to not work out as planned. And always make sure you have a backup plan."

Margin retention policy priorities

One of the ways to track farm profitability is through a measurement called "expense-to-receipt" ratio. The expense-to-receipt ratio expresses the average amount of expenses incurred for every dollar earned. According to latest Statistics Canada estimates, Saskatchewan producers had an expense ratio of 0.78 in 2017 (for every dollar earned, producers incurred 78 cents of expenses).

As Saskatchewan's general farm organization, APAS develops and advocates for farm policy that improves profitability for primary producers and Saskatchewan farm families. APAS advocates to ensure producers can operate in policy environment that allows them to receive maximum value for their products, access to innovative and affordable inputs, and conduct business in a stable and competitive tax environment.

Key areas where APAS policies have made a direct impact on improving Saskatchewan farm profitability include rail transportation, grain handling and marketing, business risk management programs, taxation, price transparency and competition in farm input supply markets.

Associate Member Profile

The Western Canadian Short Line Railway Association

BY DELANEY SEIFERLING



Photo courtesy of the Western Canadian Short Line Railway Association

When Allison Field first started travelling to Ottawa to advocate on behalf of the Western Canadian Short Line Railway Association (WCSLRA), she often felt overlooked.

"I felt like the attitude towards us was 'who are you?' and 'I don't like the things you're saying because they're not what I want to hear,'" says Field, who is the Director of Communications and Government Relations for the WCSLRA.

But over time, the WCSLRA's message became stronger, helped by their alignment with APAS.

The WCSLRA became an Associate Member of the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) in recent years and this has lent great support to the WCSLRA's presence in Ottawa, Field says.

"It's amazing to be able to show up to the Commodity Supply Chain Table and have another player from the west voicing the same concerns. APAS' voice has grown over the last couple years, especially at the federal level, and that has benefitted us hugely."

The partnership between the two organizations is also just a natural fit, as they both share the same goals – a successful short line rail system in Western

Canada, which translates into increased capacity, reliability and efficiency in delivering Western Canadian agriculture products to the world.

The WCSLRA, previously the Saskatchewan Shortline Association, was officially formed three years ago, after disastrous events beginning in 2013 exposed and reinforced major flaws and shortcomings in the Canadian grain handling and rail system.

These shortcomings, which also caused estimated farmer losses of approximately \$6.5 billion, have drawn attention to the important role that short line railways can play for Western Canada as an additional outlet to move products to markets.

Now, part of the WCSLRA's job is continuing to get this message out, Field says.

"Lots of people just don't know short lines exist and that they are a really good option for small and medium sized businesses. There's so much of a push right now in government for export, especially from small and medium sized businesses, so we want to make sure that people realize they can build on our lines."

In light of the opportunities that short line rail present for the Canadian econo-

my, the federal government was advised by its Finance Committee to create long-term, sustainable funding for short line rail infrastructure in 2019.

Evidence south of the border suggests this would be a sound investment, Field says. The United States enacted a 50 per cent short line tax credit in 2005 (capped at \$3,500 a mile), which has since resulted in more than \$4 billion in investment into infrastructure into its lines. Field says many reports have also since been published demonstrating how the tax credit has spurred major economic and financial benefits.

Now, the WCSLRA is pushing for similar support in Canada. As of January of this year, the federal government released \$750 million for infrastructure improvements and the organization has been busy putting together applications for some of this funding to invest in infrastructure improvements to improve the efficiency and capacity of short line railways in Western Canada.

"Some of the short line rail equipment we took over had not been well maintained," Field says. "To be really competitive we need to be able to move long trains, so we need to update our lines for safety but also to fully utilize capacity."

For example, she says there are times when our rail lines don't have adequate

wyes or sidings to interchange effectively or to accommodate increased traffic. Increasing the gauge of our rail lines is also important so that we can carry longer, heavier trains safely.

"We are hoping this funding comes through and we see it in the budget," Field says. "I think we've raised enough awareness about it now, the government knows that people are expecting it."

Currently, short lines have a strong presence in Saskatchewan, which is home to 13 of the 26 lines currently in use in Western Canada (there are five each in B.C. and Manitoba, while Alberta is home to three.)

Of the 13 lines currently operated in Saskatchewan, two are owned by AGT Foods, one is owned by G3 and the rest are owned by local producers and/or municipalities.

This strong agricultural membership in the WCSLRA is another reason the organization's relationship with APAS makes sense, Allison says.

"Mostly everything we do is agriculture-related," she says, adding that approximately 85% of the organization's membership is made up of the agriculture industry. Western Canadian short lines also currently service approximately 6000 producer cars per year.

"There is a lot of overlap between our members and board members, so the partnership was a natural fit. When APAS is lobbying or creating a position

statement, 99% of the time it aligns with ours because producers are the ones using our lines, so our goals are their goals."

APAS has 33 Associate Members. See the full list at APAS.ca/associate-members.



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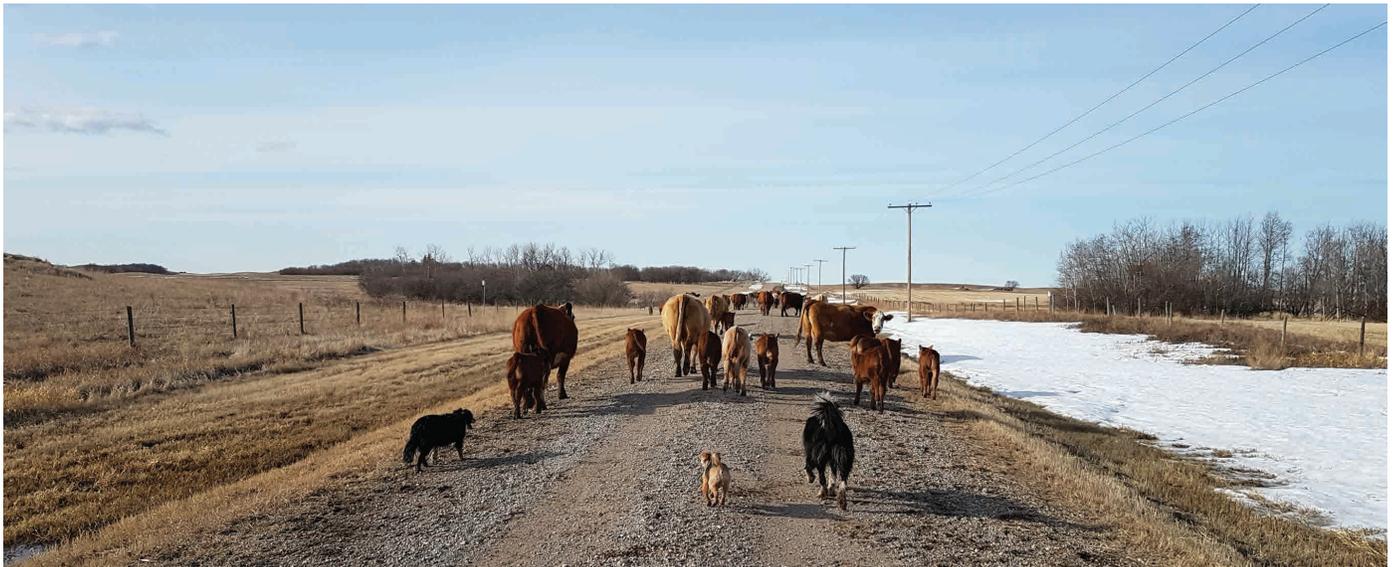

Phone: (306) 653-7932

Farm Dogs of Saskatchewan

It doesn't seem to matter the size, the age or the breed – farm dogs are special dogs.

Maybe it's because they often do actual work on the farm and are just as valuable an employee as anyone else in the operation. Maybe it's because they provide important companionship over the long hours that come with farming, a line of work that can be very solitary. Whatever it is, we salute them.

Here's to the farm dogs of Saskatchewan. Long may yours run.



Names: Maxie, Malcolm and Chewy

Nicknames: Miss Maxie / Mr. Malcolm / Chewerman

Home Quarter: RM of Golden West #95

Age: 11, 3 and 7

Breed: Australian Shepherd-Border Collie cross / Great Pyrenees-Border Collie cross / Shih Tzu-Yorkie cross

Family: The Goudys



About Maxie, Malcolm and Chewy: All three dogs love to help with the farm chores, such as chasing and checking cows, fencing, and fixing machinery. They LOVE truck rides and fit nicely in the box of the quad.

Maxie is the expert cattle herding dog. She is also a big cuddle-bug and loves to give kisses. She thinks she is the boss and likes to bark at Malcolm and Chewy when they start playing too rough.

Malcolm is the guard dog, although sometimes he likes to think he is a cattle dog. When it's time to move cows out to the pasture, you'll find Maxie and Chewy at the back, and Malcolm somewhere in the middle of the herd. During calving season, he loves to walk around the corral with Dad, making sure everything is alright. He is a very fast runner and enjoys chasing coyotes, deer, and rabbits.

Chewy definitely thinks he is a cattle dog! Despite his size, he has rounded up cows and even broke up a bull fight once! Chewy's humans think the cows are afraid of him and are not sure what he is. Chewy is also a house dog who loves playing with his toys, taking naps in the sunny bay window, eating table scraps, and hogging all the leg room on Mom and Dad's bed.

The Goudy farm just wouldn't be the same without these Good Boys and Girl.



Name: Blue

Nicknames: Blueby, Bluester the Wild Rooster

Home Quarter: RM of Marquis #191

Age: 18 months old

Breed: Greater Swiss Mountain Dog

Family: The Delaheys

About Blue: Blue was born in Alberta, but she now lives on a grain farm in the Moose Jaw area. According to her family, her two main jobs on the farm are security guard and booster of morale. She is quite large and has a mean bark to ward off intruders but is very friendly once she gets to know you. She will do almost anything for a

treat and has a unique but sometimes troublesome talent of eating almost anything she comes across. She dislikes porcupines and hot weather but enjoys peanut butter and long walks in the valley. Her absolute favourite thing to do is go for rides in the truck and like most grain producers, harvest is her favourite time of year. Blue has her own Instagram account, @bluebeetheswissy. Blue is a very Good Girl.



Name: Woody

Nickname: Woodster

Home Quarter: RM of Sliding Hills #273

Age: One

Breed: Great Dane

Family: The Stevenses

About Woody: Woody lives to get into trouble. He arrived on the Stevens Farm at eight weeks old, just in time for harvest 2017. During that harvest, he put in many hours in the equipment; from swathing to combining all the way to trucking. Now Woody has his own truck

called the Woody Wagon that can't leave the yard without him! But as soon as the wheels start rolling, he is snoozing.

Woody thinks he is a lap dog but is always there to help with chores or at least make you smile while you're doing them. Woody is a Good Boy.



2018 APAS Annual General Meeting

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan held its Annual General Meeting November 26-28, 2018 in Regina.

Thirty one resolutions were passed and the APAS Board of Directors re-elected Todd Lewis, APAS representative for RM of Lajord #128, as president for the 2019 year. Todd farms at Gray, Saskatchewan, with his family and was first elected to the position in 2016.



The Board also elected Ian Boxall of Tisdale, and Bill Prybylski of Willowbrook as Vice–Presidents for the Association.

Two new Directors were elected to the APAS Board in District One and Three.

District One	James Vogt, Francis	RM of Francis #127
	Steven Donald, Moosomin	RM of Martin #122
District Two	Todd Lewis, Gray	RM of Lajord #128
	Terry Anthony, Moose Jaw	RM of Baildon #131

District Three	Devin Harlick, Herbert Rick Jensen, Webb	RM Piapot of #110 RM of Webb #138
District Four	Ian Boxall, Tisdale Bill Prybylski, Willowbrook	RM of Connaught #457 RM of Garry #245
District Five	Donavon Block, LeRoy Mickey Palfy, Viscount	RM of Leroy, #339 RM of Viscount #341
District Six	Scott Owens, Maidstone Bill Warrington, Loverna	RM of Eldon #471 RM of Antelope Park #322

2018 APAS Annual General Meeting Resolutions

Crops and Transportation

- Work with governments and shippers to develop a standardized grain contract that clearly lays out discounts and penalties for non-performance of terms.
- Study the issue of municipal bylaws and control of clubroot, as well as best management practices for producers, business and industry, and return to the AGM with a report and recommendations.
- Lobby for grain companies to be required to itemize and print all handling and third-party costs, including freight, as separate line items on producer grain tickets.
- Work with provincial and federal governments to advance the concept of using Arctic Gateway corridor on the Hudson Bay railway to Churchill as an energy pipeline corridor for the export of Canadian products.
- Lobby the Government of Saskatchewan to provide provincially regulated short line railways tax relief through a PST exemption on the purchase of fuel and other railway inputs.
- Encourage all private and municipal hail insurance providers to extend hail insurance coverage periods to October 31.
- Use all effective means to oppose the adoption of End Point Royalties (EPRs) or farm saved seed "trailing royalty contracts" and promote the use of public plant breeding and farmer directed research.
- Maximize efforts to ensure producers have profitable varieties of high-quality

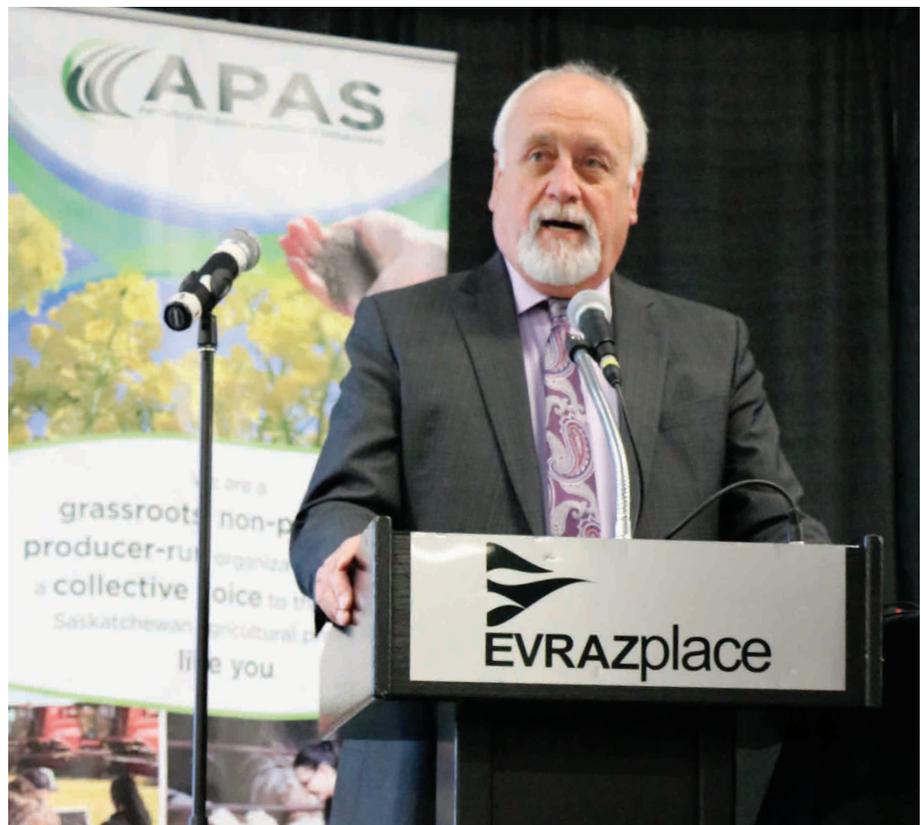
grains so that seed varieties are not prematurely deregistered, and farmers are not forced onto a "variety treadmill."

Land and Environment

- Lobby Saskatchewan Crop Insurance to allow wildlife damage compensation to apply when wildlife have been deemed to indirectly cause crop loss.
- Request the Minister of Environment to appoint an Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan representative

on the Saskatchewan Wildlife Advisory Committee.

- Lobby the Province of Saskatchewan to reinstate former funding for the Provincial Rat Control program through the Pest Control Program.
- Call on the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture to ensure that agricultural interests be considered and given due weight when making water related decisions.



Hon. David Marit, Saskatchewan Ag Minister

- Lobby the Government of Saskatchewan to reinstate the Water Appeal Board to ensure there is an appeal mechanism in place for RMs and producers to appeal Water Security Agency rulings.
- Lobby SaskPower to build all new and replacement power lines along section lines rather than across agricultural land on the angle.
- Work with the Indian Head community, prairie agricultural organizations and other interested groups to secure federal funding for a study to develop a business plan for a Tree Nursery at Indian Head.
- Request that all service providers and third-party contractors be required to have a valid work order, personal identification, and clearly displayed company logos when conducting work on rural properties.
- Request the Province of Saskatchewan to develop a mandatory protocol for cleaning and disinfecting all Crown Corporation and Oil and Gas vehicles and equipment that are exiting areas that are designated as infected with clubroot or invasive weed species.
- Lobby governments to ensure producers receive adequate compensation to offset additional expenses related to government carbon policy.

Livestock

- Lobby for changes to the Statements of Provincial Interest to ensure municipal planning and zoning do not infringe upon accepted agricultural practices, as defined in Saskatchewan's Agricultural Operations Act.
- Call on the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) to allow for the continued use of Strychnine and its associated end-use products until viable alternatives are available; and lobby governments to fund the research and development of viable, effective and economic alternatives to Strychnine.
- Lobby Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to work with producer organizations and conduct a comprehensive review of the Livestock Tax Deferral Program to ensure:



John Barlow, Member of Parliament for Foothills

- All producers in need of a tax deferral due to drought or excessive moisture have access to the Livestock Tax Deferral program, irrespective of administrative boundaries;
 - That decisions regarding deferral eligibility are timely and in sync with the production season to allow for informed tax and business planning;
 - That the program is utilizing new technology such as satellite vegetative mapping in their drought and excessive moisture assessment process; and
 - Individual producers, when excluded from a designation, are afforded an appeal mechanism.
- Finance and Rural Services**
- Work with the Government of Saskatchewan on a program to create incentives that would assist producers in improving access to natural gas services.
 - Lobby the Province of Saskatchewan to remove PST from farm business insurance premiums and construction and service contracts on farm buildings and business-related properties.
 - Call on federal and provincial governments to conduct a comprehensive review of business risk management programs in close consultation with producers and farm organizations
 - Assist the Canadian Farmers with Disabilities Registry in obtaining full funding in order to continue providing services to farmers and farm families dealing with physical and mental health issues arising from injury. (See pages 24 and 25 for a profile of the CFWDR)
 - Lobby Federal and Provincial Governments to prioritize improvements to cell and internet services to ensure service levels are consistent with those in urban areas.
 - Lobby Agricultural and Agri-Food Canada to ensure all applicants to the

Advanced Payment Program have access to the \$400,000 limit, and for an increase in the interest-free portion of the loan from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

- Work with the federal government and financial lenders to extend the mortgage terms on farmland to 50 years
- Support the creation of young-farmer mortgage program that grants young and beginning producers access to a mortgage with a down payment of 5%.

RESOLUTIONS MATTER:

Resolutions are an important part of the APAS policy development process that influence national and provincial policy decisions. A 2017 APAS Resolution calling for changes to Saskatchewan trespass legislation is a recent example. Throughout 2017, APAS Districts and Policy Committees reviewed producers' concerns with unpermitted access to private land, increased biosecurity risks and the reported number of cases involving nuisance and property damage on private agricultural land. These discussions resulted in a resolution at the 2017 AGM, calling on the provincial government to bring Saskatchewan's legislation into line with other jurisdictions where access to private farmland requires the expressed permission of landowners. APAS was pleased to see legislation introduced into the fall session which broadly addresses these concerns. APAS is a grassroot farm organization with representation from across Saskatchewan. The organization's resolutions and positions represent a majority view of producers that is taken seriously by governments and other policy decision-makers.

Other areas where 2017 resolutions had a direct impact over the course of the following year included:

- Obtained a review of the CGC grading system
- Improved producer representation on the CGC's Grains Standards Committee
- Support for more pro-active approach to clubroot monitoring and regulation
- Development of policy around carbon pricing and climate change that set a clear direction for advocacy work in these areas.



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APAS Activities

A look at some of the work APAS has been doing on behalf of Saskatchewan's farmers and ranchers.

APAS fights the Carbon Tax in court

As the only farm organization granted intervenor status in the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal reference case on the Federal Carbon Tax, APAS used the opportunity to argue that the federal government is overstepping constitutional boundaries.

From the factum prepared by APAS lawyers and presented in court in Regina on February 13: "It is clear that both the purpose and the effect of the Act is to regulate local industry, business and consumer activity – in a very specific way chosen by Canada – in order to endeavor to reduce GHGs. Such regulation falls into the provincial power over trade, commerce, property and civil rights in the Province, pursuant to s. 92(13) of the Constitution Act, 1867."

APAS has long argued that the carbon tax will have a disproportionate impact on farmers and ranchers as well as rural Saskatchewan. "As producers, we already look for every possible cost savings, because we can't pass those costs along," APAS President Todd Lewis said. "And if you reduce our financial ability to adopt new technologies, it defeats the purpose of the carbon tax."

APAS will continue to fight the carbon tax on behalf of Saskatchewan's more than 15000 farming and ranching families. Watch this space for updates.

APAS Responds to Seed Royalty Consultations

In January, APAS wrote a letter to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada asking the department to withdraw proposals on seed royalties and value creation.

In fall 2018, AAFC began seeking feedback on proposals to charge royalties on seed saved from cereal and pulse varieties. The two models under consider-

ation are an "End Point Royalty model," under which royalties on saved seed are charged at the point of grain delivery, and a "Trailing Royalty Contract" which would involve contractual agreements specifying royalty payments when farm saved seed is used in subsequent years. Both royalty proposals would apply to varieties registered after February 2015 and at the discretion of the plant breeder or original registrant.

APAS Representatives attended consultation sessions in December and January. The issue was also discussed at length at the recent AGM, where Representatives passed a motion expressing concerns with proposals to charge royalties on farm-saved seed (see page 17)

APAS has requested more consultations to determine a path forward that recognizes producers' investment in crop development while ensuring our breeding programs are adequately funded. APAS' concerns with the current proposals include the potential for increased seed costs with little to no assurance of improved economic returns at the farmgate, that neither model has received widespread support from producers, and that continued consideration of these proposals is drawing attention away from more constructive discussions on the future of crop development in Canada.

APAS will continue to call on the government to withdraw these seed royalty proposals while we examine other options that better meet the needs of primary producers.

APAS welcomes Supreme Court's Redwater Decision

APAS welcomed the recent Supreme Court decision regarding energy companies' responsibilities for the clean-up of abandoned oil and gas wells on agricul-

tural land. On January 31, the Supreme Court struck down lower Court rulings that the assets of bankrupt oil and gas companies should be used to pay off creditors prior to fulfilling their reclamation obligations under provincial legislation. Known as the "Redwater" case, this landmark decision is considered a positive step toward protecting agricultural producers and rural landowners across the country from the costs and liabilities associated with having abandoned wells on their property. Alberta's "Action Surface Rights Association" intervened in the Supreme Court Case on behalf of Alberta landowners. Last year, APAS provided the Court a signed affidavit in support of Action Surface Rights' application for intervenor status. APAS also continues to work closely with Saskatchewan-based landowner associations to represent producers on issues pertaining to surface rights and resource development.

Livestock Tax Deferrals

APAS was pleased with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's January 30th announcement of expanded coverage for the Federal Livestock Tax Deferral. The Livestock Tax Deferral Program allows producers the ability to defer reportable income when cattle are sold due feed shortages resulting from drought and excess moisture. AAFC assign designates eligibility based on municipal boundaries. APAS has been strongly advocating for a province-wide designation in recognition of how spotty rain showers were in Saskatchewan this past growing season. As the January 30th announcement, 75% of Saskatchewan RMs have been designated as eligible. Even with this expanded coverage, APAS is continuing to hear from producers who are having to reduce their herd but are unable to access the deferral program because the reside in an inel-

igible RM. 2018 demonstrated serious shortfalls with the current approach and APAS is calling for program improvements (see page 13 for resolutions)

2019 APAS Policy Conference

APAS will be holding a policy conference on April 2nd and 3rd at the Saskatoon Inn. Topics will include carbon, alternative energy and more. The public is welcome; for more information and to register, visit APAS.ca/pc.



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2019 APAS Policy Conference

April 2 and 3
Saskatoon Inn

Topics include carbon, alternative energy and more
Details and registration at APAS.ca/pc

IS YOUR RM A MEMBER OF APAS?

Get to know your APAS Representative

DISTRICT ONE

- #1 **Argyle** – Brenda Ryckman
- #2 **Mount Pleasant** – Terry Macfarlane
- #3 **Enniskillen** – Barry Fitzpatrick
- #31 **Storthoaks** – Elissa Henrion
- #33 **Moose Creek** – Bill Neuman
- #37 **Lomond** – Ryan McKenzie
- #63 **Moose Mountain** – Jim Shirley
- #65 **Tecumseh** – Thomas Breault
- #91 **Maryfield** – Jeffrey Chambers
- #93 **Wawken** – Trevor Branvold
- #94 **Hazelwood** – Kyle Kish
- #95 **Golden West** – Wanda Reid
- #96 **Fillmore** – Jordon Lynch
- #97 **Wellington** – David Beach
- #121 **Moosomin** – Marion McBride
- #122 **Martin** – Steven Donald
- #123 **Silverwood** – Robert Dodd
- #124 **Kingsley** – Greg Pusch
- #125 **Chester** – Lee Sluser
- #126 **Montmartre** – Cory Stringer
- #127 **Francis** – James Vogt
- #151 **Rocanville** – Herb Park
- #152 **Spy Hill** – Corinne Delmage
- #153 **Willowdale** – Kenneth Aldous
- #155 **Wolseley** – Jim Ross
- #156 **Indian Head** – Lorne Scott
- #181 **Langenburg** – Mike Mitschke
- #183 **Fertile Belt** – Arlynn Kurtz
- #184 **Grayson** – Danny Ottenbreit
- #187 **North Qu'Appelle** – George MacPherson
- #211 **Churchbridge** – Cameron Wiebe
- #214 **Cana** – Janette Reinson

DISTRICT TWO

- #11 **Hart Butte** – Louis Paradis
- #38 **Laurier** – Bev Pirio
- #68 **Brokenshell** – Eric Dorsch
- #71 **Excel** – Ron Daviduk
- #72 **Lake of the Rivers** – Chris Bates
- #73 **Stonehenge** – Vince Topola
- #74 **Wood River** – Duane Filson

- #98 **Scott** – Tim Devereaux
- #100 **Elmsthorpe** – James Beingessner
- #103 **Sutton** – Richard Nagel
- #104 **Gravelbourg** – James Bateman
- #128 **Lajord** – Todd Lewis
- #129 **Bratt's Lake** – Gregor Beck
- #131 **Baildon** – Terry Anthony
- #162 **Caron** – Ray McBride
- #163 **Wheatlands** – Kurtis Hicks
- #191 **Marquis** – Glen Steinhauer
- #193 **Eyebrow** – Dean Thiessen
- #221 **Sarnia** – Carl Erlandson
- #222 **Craik** – Rodney Obrigewitsch

DISTRICT THREE

- #49 **White Valley** – Daryl Allemand
- #75 **Pinto Creek** – Brian Corcoran
- #76 **Auvergne** – Dale Davidson
- #79 **Arlington** – Wally Envik
- #106 **Whiska Creek** – Kelly Williamson
- #108 **Bone Creek** – Rick Rouse
- #109 **Carmichael** – Don Connick
- #110 **Piapot** – Devin Harlick
- #135 **Lawtonia** – Keith Deobald
- #136 **Coulee** – Greg Targerson
- #138 **Webb** – Rick Jensen
- #167 **Sask Landing** – Dan Barber
- #226 **Victory** – Lee Galbraith
- #228 **Lacadena** – Megz Reynolds
- #257 **Monet** – Vacant
- #259 **Snipe Lake** – Glen Collins
- #261 **Chesterfield** – Leah Cooper

DISTRICT FOUR

- #244 **Orkney** – Randy Trost
- #245 **Garry** – Bill Prybylski
- #275 **Insinger** – Willy Zuchkan
- #277 **Emerald** – Norman Hall
- #304 **Buchanan** – Don Skoretz
- #308 **Big Quill** – Ernest Hall
- #333 **Clayton** – Lorne Ball
- #334 **Preeceville** – Dale Parkin

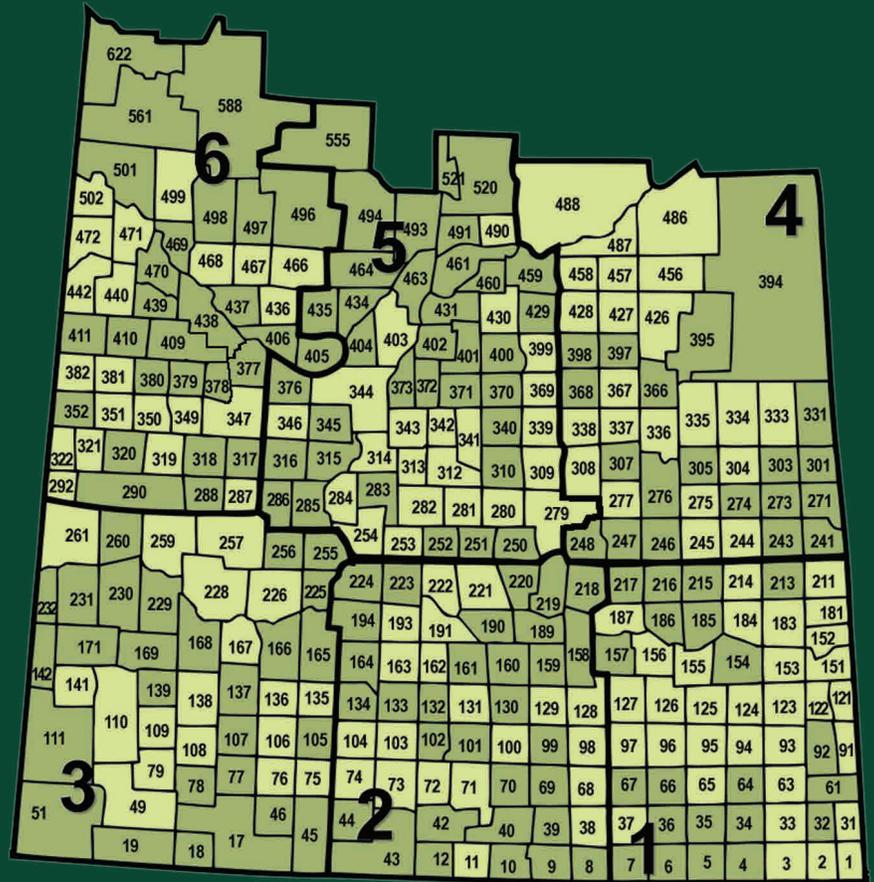
- #335 Hazel Dell – Jim Ashworth
- #337 Lakeview – Angela Jones
- #338 Lakeside – Jason Friesen
- #367 Ponass Lake – Rick Sunderland
- #426 Bjorkdale – Glen Clarke
- #427 Tisdale – Ian Alan
- #428 Star City – Shawn Mooney
- #456 Arborfield – Robert Reavie
- #457 Connaught – Ian Boxall
- #458 Willowcreek – Brent Freedman
- #486 Moose Range – Spencer Maxwell
- #487 Nipawin – Brandon Perkins
- #488 Torch River – Jerry Kindrat

DISTRICT FIVE

- #253 Willner – Rene Doell
- #254 Loreburn – Vanessa Tastad
- #279 Mount Hope – Ian McNichol
- #280 Wreford – Vacant
- #281 Wood Creek – Glen Busse
- #282 McCraney – Vacant
- #284 Rudy – Jan Konst
- #309 Prairie Rose – Garth Burns
- #312 Morris – Jason Johns
- #313 Lost River – Ivan Carpenter
- #314 Dundurn – David Aldred
- #339 Leroy – Donavon Block
- #341 Viscount – Mickey Palfy
- #342 Colonsay – Pat Mulhall
- #343 Blucher – Blair Cummins
- #344 Corman Park – Ken Rosaasen
- #346 Perdue – Curtis Lammers
- #369 St. Peter – Paul Ulrich
- #399 Lake Lenore – Mark Schemenauer
- #403 Rosthern – Glenn Braun
- #430 Invergordon – Wayne Bacon
- #490 Garden River – Ryan Scragg

DISTRICT SIX

- #287 St. Andrews – Kevin Sinclair
- #292 Milton – James Loken
- #319 Winslow – Martin McGrath
- #321 Prairiedale – Tim Richelhoff
- #322 Antelope Park – Bill Warrington
- #347 Biggar – Robert Danychuk
- #349 Grandview – Allen Turk
- #350 Mariposa – Jeremy Welter



MEMBER NON-MEMBER

- #351 Progress – Kim Herbst
- #381 Grass Lake – Bentley Sperle
- #382 Eye Hill – Greg Rissling
- #436 Douglas – Nick Partyka
- #440 Hillsdale – Lawrence Olson
- #442 Manitou Lake – Karl Koch
- #466 Meeting Lake – Lyle Prescesky
- #467 Round Hill – Gordon Moore
- #468 Meota – Glenn Tait
- #471 Eldon – Scott Owens
- #472 Wilton – Devon Walker
- #499 Mervin – Tom Brown
- #502 Britannia – Jonas Hoegl

“Yes, there is life after an accident”

But loss of funding threatens support for farmers with disabilities

BY KIM KENNETT

Bob Guest from Denholm, SK understands what it's like to live with a disability. When he was four years old, he lost an arm. It was the kids' responsibility to take the cushion off the steel seat of the tractor at night to keep it dry, so that's what he did. But it fell into the power takeoff and he reached in to retrieve it....

It all happened in a split second. As most accidents do.

Despite his disability, Guest has been successfully farming for over 30 years. Through trial and error, he's figured out how to make things work, whether it's adapting equipment to meet his needs, or modifying how he does his work. He also curled competitively, played fastball and got his Class 1A driver's license.

“It is a great loss to the agricultural community and farm families if farmers are unable to do the work they love.”

His experiences having to manage without his right arm prompted him to become involved in helping other farmers who had accidents. In the mid-'80s, he was one of the founding members of Saskatchewan Disabled Farmers. When the Canadian Farmers with Disabilities Registry (CFWDR) was formed in the late '90s, Guest represented Saskatchewan on the board and is currently the Chair.

CFWDR is a community of disabled farmers that provide a support system

to other farmers living with disability or illness. Guest says CFWDR is the only organization of its kind in Canada that assists farmers in managing their situation after an accident.

“If a farmer has just been injured in an accident and has lost the use of his legs, and a guy in a wheelchair who has been farming for the last 10 or 20 years rolls in to reassure him that he can still farm, it makes a huge difference,” Guest says. “A doctor telling them that they're going to be OK just isn't the same because they've got both arms and both legs and they don't know what it's like.”

Guest calls the CFWDR a source of information that medical professionals can refer injured farmers.

“Our role is also supportive in nature, to

tell them it's not the end of the world. They can still be a productive part of their farm – and here's where they can get information to develop the equipment so they can use it properly without getting into more trouble.”

And timing is everything, according to Guest. “We know that the earlier we can get to someone who's had an accident, the more likely they are to stay on the farm and keep farming. We need to be able to reach disabled farmers as soon as possible to assist with all phases of



recovery. We match the victim's family with another family who have had a similar accident, so that they can go to the farm and help them solve issues.”

Until 2008, CFWDR was funded through the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association, or CASA. The funding enabled CASA to provide administrative support for CFWDR which included maintaining a database of farmers with disabilities and arranging volunteer visitations for accident victims. The money also covered meeting costs for CFWDR and volunteers' travel expenses.

Unfortunately, federal budget cuts to CASA, along with changes to the agriculture-funding agreements between the federal government and the provinces that required matching funds, changed that agreement. CASA was unable to continue providing financial support to CFWDR.

For the past 10 years, CFWDR has managed to continue on, but not as effectively. Volunteers are out of pocket for any expenses related to visiting injured farmers. The cash shortfall has taken a huge toll on their ability to help the people who need it.



"Due to the nature of agriculture, there's always going to be accidents," says Guest. "If we cease to exist, who is going to step in to work with those farmers who really need the reassurance that, yes, there is life after an accident? That with a few modifications, their lives don't need to change that much?"

Even with the lack of funds, the CFWDR board has not been idle. They've been pursuing private industry for assistance and applying for government programs. However, finding anyone who is willing to cover administrative costs is a challenge. And grants often have matching fund requirements.

What worries Guest the most is that the registry is not being maintained. "There was a farmer around Yorkton who recently lost his arm in an accident. The registry is so out of date – people on that list are either passed away, not available or have quit farming. I spent half a day trying to find someone to go and see him."

The CFWDR has also been witness to the mental health crisis in the farming community for many years now. Guest was invited to address the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-

Food meeting on mental health in Ottawa in October 2018.

“ We know that the earlier we can get to someone who's had an accident, the more likely they are to stay on the farm and keep farming. ”

"Even without a disability, the daily challenges of mental health and managing a farm can be a lot. Add a disability to the challenges and it becomes a hundred-fold more." He adds that it is crucial to bring the family together to talk after an accident and shares an example:

"There was one case when a farmer lost his arm in an auger. The farmer was doing extremely well after the accident. He just wanted to get back to work, but the son who had turned the auger on was suffering from guilt which led to the entire family being torn apart by the incident. The family we sent in to help said there was no better feeling than seeing that family get back to being a productive family unit again."

Guest was also invited to the APAS annual general meeting in November 2018

to speak about the work of CFWDR and the challenges they have been facing. Following his presentation, a resolution was passed with overwhelming support.

BE IT RESOLVED that APAS assist the Disabled Farmers Association in obtaining full funding in order to continue providing services to farmers and farm families dealing with physical and mental health issues arising from injury.

As a follow-up to the resolution, Todd Lewis, President of APAS, wrote a letter to Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, expressing their concerns. Although they have not had a response, they are hoping to meet with the Minister during the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's AGM in Ottawa in late February.

"CFWDR is a vitally important organization," stresses Lewis. "Everyone knows someone who has had a debilitating farming accident and we should do anything we can do to ease the transition for that farmer and the family."

Although he has not yet had any firm commitments, Guest hopes he can be successful with securing funding for the registry. He knows firsthand what CFWDR has accomplished, and what may be lost if the registry closes down.

"I cannot tell you how good it feels, and the impact we can have on families when we speak to them one-on-one to give them hope that they can carry on with their farm life. It is a great loss to the agricultural community and farm families if farmers are unable to do the work they love."

To find out more about CFWDR or how you can support their efforts, visit their website at <http://www.cfwdr.com> or contact Bob Guest at bhquest@yourlink.ca or 306-445-5531.

CFA Update

CFA presents on the Feast or Famine Report with Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

On December 11, CFA President Ron Bonnett was invited by the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry to help present their Feast or Famine report. The report looked at the impact of climate change and carbon pricing on agriculture and forestry, and Ron was asked to speak to the recommendations provided in the report from an industry perspective.

CFA released a media statement soon after the press conference, expressing satisfaction with the recommendations from the report as they reflect many of the recommendations CFA put forward during consultation sessions.

This report was seen as an excellent look at the next steps beyond carbon pricing that the government and the sector can take to help adapt to and mitigate against climate change.



CFA President Ron Bonnett with Senator Terry Mercer, Senator Diane Griffin and Senator Ghislain Maltais

CFA discusses Healthy Eating Strategy with Minister Petitpas-Taylor

In late November, CFA President Ron Bonnett and CFA staff met with the Minister of Health, the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, to discuss CFA's ongoing concerns with draft regulations put forward earlier in 2018 with regard to Front-of-Package labelling.



CFA Assistant Executive Director Scott Ross, CFA President Ron Bonnett and CFA Environment and Science Policy Advisor Frank Annau meet with Minister Petitpas-Taylor.

CFA noted the lack of scientific evidence supporting the focus on specific nutrients of public health concern, particularly saturated fats, and pointed out the dearth of evidence supporting FOPL efficacy based on Chile's experience to date and Canadians' ability to infer nutritional information from the Nutritional Facts Table.

CFA highlighted the need to reconsider this approach in light of the Agri-food Economic Strategy Table report, which recommended that Health Canada work with industry to explore alternative approaches, while highlighting the valuable role that education must play in any Healthy Eating Strategy. CFA also noted continued concerns with the lack of rigour in the cost-benefit analysis supporting these measures, calling for a more comprehensive assessment that factored in all facets of a Healthy Eating Strategy that intends to take an integrated approach to achieving healthy eating outcomes for Canadians.

CFA made recommendations with respect to the evaluation and re-evaluation processes within the PMRA and the need for Health Canada and CFIA to take a more active role in communicating the rigour and benefits of Canada's regulatory frameworks.

CFA hosts PTSC Engagement Session; receives funding from AAFC

CFA held a Public Trust Steering Committee engagement session on November 13 at the Hilton Lac Leamy hotel in Gatineau, QC. The theme of the session was "Taking stock of the Public Trust landscape" and had over 60 participants from government and industry across the entire food system.

Speakers shared a brief update on their primary role/mandate, their key priorities and the significant program initiatives they are involved with today and going forward.

Participants broke out into working groups to determine what the sector was doing well, what could be improved upon and how to go about improving them. These discussions will help define a strategic approach that will guide the PTSC in designing plans to effectively to support our network in the future.

Funding Announcement

On November 14th, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food Jean-Claude Poissant announced funding of up to \$250,000 for national co-ordination of the Public Trust Strategy through CAAP.



Build safety on your farm before spring planting

BY ROBERT GOBEIL

As the start of spring draws closer, the thoughts of many Canadian producers turn to the planting of crops, and the hope for a productive and successful farming season begins again.

The promise of a new season is an ideal time to do a thorough check of equipment and processes. If you feel you're running short of time, consider this: time is a resource we seem to have plenty of when times are slow, and then becomes invaluable as work demands increase. Being proactive in checking equipment and processes before planting is essential. Taking the time to implement pre-season checklists will pay off in the end by helping reduce the chance of breakdowns and downtime during one of the very busiest parts of the year.

(As an added bonus, using checklists as a part of your safety management system shows your farm does its due diligence.)

There are plenty of checklist templates available or they can be created from scratch. The choice is yours. (Check out casa-acsa.ca/resources/canada-farm-safe-plan for CASA's free FarmSafe Plan – including checklists!)

When working with a checklist, begin by asking yourself questions about various equipment and processes. This will give you the tools to identify problems and gives you the opportunity to develop corrective actions to address any issues. You don't have to rush and try to fix everything all at once. Instead, prioritize items based on the chance of occurrence and potential severity if a breakdown occurs.

An operational checklist should also include placing orders for essential



supplies, such as seed, crop protection products, or feed. Since these items often take time to arrive, ordering them in advance means they are readily available when needed. Another thing to consider on your checklist is purchasing any necessary insurances (home/property, crop, liability, etc.) to protect your operation should an unfortunate and unforeseen event occur. And don't forget to inspect your fields and pastures for standing water and drainage once the last of the snow has finally melted.

This is also a good time to make sure all of your workers are up-to-date with training, as well as reminding them about your Emergency Response Plan. (If you don't already have an Emergency Response Plan, now's the time to develop one.)

When it comes to tools and equipment, consider stocking up on parts that often need replacing (including items like lights and reflective markings). Remember that some items should be maintained based on the hours of use, so there's nothing wrong with performing this maintenance ahead of schedule to avoid breakdowns and unexpected repairs when the workload increases. And while you're doing maintenance, don't overlook your safety equipment. Every checklist should include safety equipment inspections to ensure these items are accessible and working properly if they are needed. This includes fire ex-

tinguishers, first aid kits, and eyewash stations, as well as personal protective equipment.

On top of checking your equipment and processes, a facility inspection should also be implemented as part of your safety management system. While this type of assessment needs to be done at regular intervals throughout the year, it's worthwhile to begin the process before the start of the season.

Time is our most valuable resource. That's why taking care to prepare early is essential to having a productive and successful season. Incorporating pre-season checklists will help prevent downtime and help ensure your operation runs smoothly throughout the busy months ahead.

This safety advice article is a part of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week. Canadian Agricultural Safety Week (CASW) is an annual campaign held the third week of March of each year. In 2019, Safe & Strong Farms: Build an AgSafe Canada, takes place March 10 to 16. CASW is presented by Farm Credit Canada. For more information visit agsafetyweek.ca

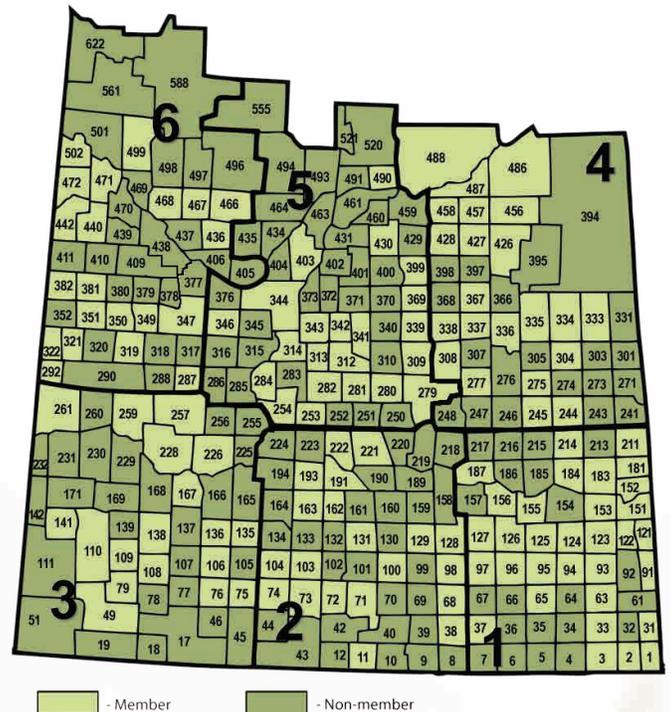
Robert Gobeil is the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association's Ag Health and Safety Specialist.

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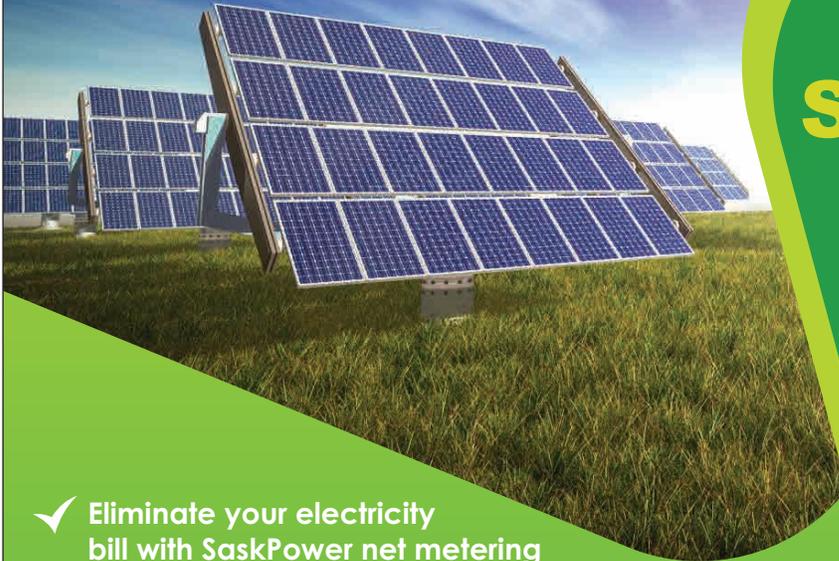
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PN3685A (PA)

2009 NEW HOLLAND T9050

4237HRS, 800/70R38 DUALS, 5 HYD OUTLETS, HYD FLOW 55 GPM, DIFF LOCK FRONT & REAR, AUTOSTEER, CAB LUXURY, MEGA FLOW HYDS, RADAR GROUND SENSOR, TOW CABLE



\$223,000.00

PN3736A (PA)

2012 NEW HOLLAND T9.390

1678 HRS, PTO, MEGA FLOW, AUTO GUIDANCE NAV CONTROLLER, 262 WAAS, DIFF LOCK - FRONT & REAR, CAB LUXURY, INTELLIVUE IV, TOW CABLE, 710/70R42 DUALS



\$400,000.00

HN3661A (PA)

2016 NEW HOLLAND T9.530 HD

269HRS, 10 FRT WTS W/BRKT, LIGHTS 3 HID, 4000# REAR BALLAST, 6 HYD OUTLETS, TIRES 800/70R38 DUALS, DRAWBAR HIGH CAPACITY, LUXURY CAB, COLD WEATHER PKG



\$360,000.00

HU3810 (H)

2013 NEW HOLLAND T9.670

1905 HRS, PTO 16 SPD PWRSHIFT, 6 X MEGA FLOW HYD, LUXURY CAB, TRACKS 36"

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2000 HR or 48 MONTH Warranty on tracks



\$19,000.00

PB3622C (PA)

2001 FLEXI-COIL 3450

LEADIN, SINGLE SHOOT CAN BE USED AS DOUBLE, DUALS FANS, SINGLE TIRES DIAMOND TREAD 30.5L-32, 8 RUN, 8" LOAD/UNLOAD AUGER, LOW PROFILE HOPPER, 3 TANK



\$40,000.00

PB3441D (K)

2006 BOURGAULT 6350

28L-26 SINGLE RICE LUG REAR TIRES, 21.5L-16.1SL FRONT TIRES, SINGLE SHOOT, 3 TANK, REAR TOW HITCH, STANDARD AUGER, 491 MONITOR



\$94,000.00

PB3623A (PA)

2011 BOURGAULT 3310

75" 12" SPACING SINGLE SHOOT LEADING AIR KIT, MRB III'S, 4.5" SEMI-PNEUMATIC PACKER, 3" SPREAD TIPS, CRA AND CLUTCHES 591 MONITOR, DUAL SHOOT



\$134,000.00

PS3695A (PA)

2016 SEED MASTER 5012

CT TXB-L5, SMART OPENERS, AUTO ADJ PCK, DUAL MAINFRAME 380/55R16.5, NOVA READY SS ADD-ON OPENER, PATTISON LIQUID KIT, REAR HITCH HD CLEVIS, TIRE UPGRADE



\$165,000.00

PB3441A (PA)

2014 BOURGAULT 3320QDA

76" 12" DUAL SHOOT, 2" FULL CARBIDE SPREAD TIPS, MRB'S 3 SET UP FOR DRY, 4.5" SEMI-PNEUMATIC PACKERS, DUAL SHOOT SINGLE RUN BLOCKAGE MONITOR



\$165,000.00

PB3622A (PA)

2017 BOURGAULT 5810

62 FT 9.8" SPACING, 450LB TRIPS-HD, SPEED LOC ADAPTERS, 3 1/2" STEEL PACKERS, MUDSCRAPER PKG



\$279,000.00

HR3533A (H)

2012 MORRIS C2 CONTOUR & 2014 9800

71" DUAL SHOOT, 12" SPACING PAIRED ROW, 5.5" PACKER, QUAD HITCH, 800/65R32 FRT TIRES, 800/70R38 DUAL REAR TIRES, DUAL FANS, 10" HYD ASSIST AUGER



\$325,000.00

B23243A (K)

2017 JOHN DEERE 1870 & 1910

56", 12", HARD PLASTIC V PACKERS, NH3, 3/4" SEED TIPS, 1/2" NH3 TIPS, SINGLE CHUTE, SINGLE RUN BLOCKAGE, 3 TANK, 430 BUS, PLASTIC TANKS, SEC CONTROL, REMOTE CONTROL AUGER



\$205,000.00

PN3691B (PA)

2013 NEW HOLLAND SP.275R

1772HRS, 1200 GAL SS, 4WD, DUAL WHEEL KIT 380/90R46 161 22IN DUAL CAP NUT, ELEC FLUSH & RINSE CNTRL 120/70FT 5 SEC 20IN 3WA, HYD. AXLE ADJUST, POWERGLIDE



\$350,000.00

PN3498A (PA)

2014 NEW HOLLAND SP.365F

10 SEC, 120 FT BOOM, 1600 GAL TANK, BOOM LEVELLER ULTRAGLIDE, BOOM TILT ACCUMULATOR, ELEC FLUSH & RINSE CONTROL, TRIDEKON CROP SAVERS, 2 SET OF TWIN NOZZLES



\$189,500.00

HC3868 (H)

2011 NEW HOLLAND SP.240F

1247 HRS, 1000 GAL POLY TANK/6.7L TURBO 275 HP, 380/90R46 168 A8, 520/85R38 158, ELEC FLUSH & RINSE CENTER, BOOM BLOW OUT SYSTEM, 100/60FT 10 SEC 20 IN

CROP DIVIDERS INCLUDED!



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U23214 (K)

2015 NEW HOLLAND T7.270

590HRS, SUPERSTEER AX758050, BAR AXLE 112 IN., 4 ELECTRONIC REAR REMOTES, LOW PRESSURE RETURN- QC-ISO, HIGH CAPACITY PUMP, LH AND RH ROTARY BEACONS,



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