

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

October 9, 2008

# **Parties Take Time For Agriculture**

Winnipeg - Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP), Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS), and Wild Rose Agricultural Producers (WRAP) are looking toward next week's federal election with the hope that the elected government will implement policies that commit support for agriculture and move towards a long term plan that ensures farmers' sustainability.

"It is critical that the government move forward with a clear vision for the industry—one that promotes both financial and environmental sustainability," said Ian Wishart, KAP President.

Prairie producers are looking to the federal government to show leadership on critical issues such as farm input prices, producer payment security, transportation, the environment, and working with farm organizations. These priorities were outlined in a questionnaire sent to four political party leaders in September.

"Prairie producers are eager for strategies and solutions that recognize the importance of agriculture to our economy and Canadian identity," said Glenn Blakley, President of APAS. "Presenting the different responses to these specific questions will allow our members to make informed decisions on issues that affect their future."

KAP, APAS, and WRAP were encouraged to receive responses from three out of the four parties including the Green Party, Liberal Party, and NDP. The responses shared a snapshot of each party platform with rural voters, and helped demonstrate that the parties recognize the importance of agriculture in this campaign. The three farm organizations would like to thank each party for taking the time to address agriculture.

"KAP, APAS, and WRAP look forward to working with all elected Members of Parliament on agricultural issues that are important to farm families on the Prairies." said Humphrey Banack, President of WRAP.

The three agricultural organizations representing farmers across Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba want to remind rural residents to vote on Tuesday, Oct. 14 and encourage Prairie producers to review the platforms presented by all political parties before casting their ballots.

The complete set of responses to the questionnaire on agriculture are available in the three attached backgrounders submitted by the Green, Liberal, and New Democratic Parties.

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