

National Office
2717 Wentz Ave.
Saskatoon, Sask.
S7K 4B6
Tel (306) 652-9465
Fax (306) 664-6226
E-Mail: nfu@nfu.ca



national farmers union
In Union Is Strength

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WESTERN FARMERS ENDORSE EASTER FOR AG MINISTER

SASKATOON, Sask – Members of the National Farmers Union (NFU) in Saskatchewan are calling on Prime Minister Paul Martin to appoint Wayne Easter to the post of federal Agriculture Minister. Easter, who served as President of the NFU from December 1982 till January, 1993, is currently the Liberal MP for the riding of Malpeque, Prince Edward Island.

At the NFU's Saskatchewan regional convention in Bruno recently, delegates adopted a resolution endorsing Easter as the next Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. The Prime Minister is expected to name his new Cabinet next week.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, NFU Saskatchewan Coordinator Don Kelsey said Easter has "considerable experience dealing with all aspects of agriculture and farming across Canada." Kelsey said during his ten-year tenure as President of the NFU, Easter provided excellent leadership on western agricultural issues. He added that Easter is "one of the few MPs in the caucus who completely understands the workings of supply management, the Canadian Wheat Board, the beef sector, the potato sector and other areas of agriculture."

Kelsey noted that Easter has earned deep respect from both supporters and opponents over the years for his principled defense of the family farm. "Wayne is the type of person that Canadian family farmers need in the post of Agriculture Minister," concluded Kelsey.

NFU President Stewart Wells also sent a letter endorsing Easter as Ag Minister to the Prime Minister last week. Similar letters of support have been forthcoming from NFU members across Canada.

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*Contact: Don Kelsey, NFU Saskatchewan Coordinator (306) 428-2258
Stewart Wells, NFU President (306) 773-6852 or (306) 741-7694
Terry Pugh, NFU Executive-Secretary (306) 652-9465*