

National Office  
2717 Wentz Ave.  
Saskatoon, Sask., S7K 4B6  
Tel (306) 652-9465  
Fax (306) 664-6226



**national farmers union**  
*In Union Is Strength*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **NFU HAY EXCHANGE GETS LABOUR UNION SUPPORT**

**SWIFT CURRENT, Sask.**—The National Farmers Union is running a hay exchange for member farm families. The goals are to ensure that as much feed and bedding as possible is baled and preserved and that those NFU members with surplus feed or bedding are put in touch with those who desperately need these supplies.

The NFU is compiling lists of members with hay and feed bales; potential supplies of feed or bedding that could be baled; those with extra pasture; members with equipment that could be used to make hay; and those who could provide trucking. These lists will be faxed to members who need these supplies or services. The national, direct-membership structure of the NFU makes it especially well-suited to facilitate this type of program.

The Saskatchewan Federation of Labour (SFL) has made a generous initial contribution to fund some of the costs of the NFU program and has made an ongoing commitment to work with member unions to raise additional funds. The SFL contacted the NFU after SFL unions indicated they wanted to help farmers struggling to feed livestock herds.

“The labour movement in Saskatchewan and across Canada is again demonstrating its solidarity with this country’s family farmers. There is overwhelming support for farmers among workers and urban Canadians. While the federal government is assisting in the cost of moving hay, government policies do not adequately reflect the tremendous support of Canadians for our family farms,” said NFU President Stewart Wells.

“Farmers and all Canadians want a long-term agricultural policy that supports this country’s family farm food production system. Unfortunately, the proposed Agricultural Policy Framework falls far short of that goal,” said Wells.

“The NFU is built on the ideal of farmers working together for collective advantage. This hay exchange is a good example of that ideal in action. Labour unions also understand the power of collective action and solidarity. In an age of expanding corporate power and increasingly-damaging government policies, farmers and workers will have to strengthen these bonds of mutual support if we want to prosper,” concluded Wells.

Members of the public wishing to contribute to the NFU hay exchange are encouraged to call: (306) 652-9465

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For More Information:

Stewart Wells, NFU President:	(306) 773-6852 or 741-7694
Darrin Qualman, Executive Secretary:	(306) 652-9465