

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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IMPORTANT VICTORY FOR FARMERS

Saskatoon, SK. – The results of the 2010 Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) Director elections have been announced. Four of the five successful candidates are strong supporters of the CWB’s single desk marketing advantage. The successful candidates include Stewart Wells in District 3, Allen Oberg in District 5, Kyle Korneychuk in District 7, and John Sandborn in District 9. Of the ten elected farmers on the Board of Directors, 8 now support the CWB’s advantages and 2 do not.

“This is a very important victory for farmers,” stated National Farmers Union (NFU) Coordinator Glenn Tait. “This election maintains the precedent started in 1998 with 80% of the farmer directors supporting the marketing advantages of the CWB. In 2007, Prime Minister Harper vowed to “walk over” any opposition to his plans to dismantle the CWB. It is very encouraging to see farmers standing up for their rights to get more money from the marketplace,” added Tait.

The benefits of single desk marketing were also championed in the Saskatchewan potash debate this past fall. “It was encouraging to see the Premier of Saskatchewan talking about the benefits of single desk selling of potash. Those same benefits are even more important in the global grain trade,” stated NFU President Terry Boehm.

“The wishes of farmers are crystal clear, and it is now time for the federal government to start doing three things on behalf of prairie Canadian farmers: first, show farmers the respect they deserve, and remove the gag order which they are using to muzzle the CWB; second, stop meddling with the voters’ list; and third, stand up for the CWB at international trade talks, including the WTO and CETA,” added Boehm.

“Prairie farmers stand united in their belief that the future of the CWB’s single desk is a decision to be made by farmers and farmers alone, not the federal government. Farmers have, yet again, sent a clear message with this election result, and the Harper government must now respect that,” added Boehm.

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For more information, please contact

Terry Boehm, NFU President	(306) 255-2880
Glenn Tait, NFU Region 6 Coordinator	(306) 892-4342
Kevin Wipf, NFU Executive Director	(306) 652-9465