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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CWB SINGLE DESK SHOULD REMAIN INTACT, SAYS NFU**

The National Farmers Union (NFU) says the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) must retain its single-desk marketing ability if it is to maximize returns to farmers.

A proposal contained in the recently-released Conservative Party agriculture platform calls for a “voluntary” Wheat Board. However, the experience of the voluntary Wheat Board in the late 1930s proved unsatisfactory for farmers.

NFU President Stewart Wells said the CWB single-desk ensures western Canadian farmers earn a premium on Canadian grains sold into export markets. The single-desk also allows farmers to benefit from price pooling and long-term market development of overseas customers.

The NFU is a strictly non-partisan farm organization made up of thousands of members from across Canada. It promotes policies which are in the interests of family farms. The NFU has long been a strong supporter of marketing programs that maximize returns to farmers, like supply-management agencies and orderly marketing systems including the Canadian Wheat Board.

Wells said western Canadian farmers have shown they support the CWB single-desk by consistently electing a majority of CWB Directors who favour orderly marketing. Even the farmers in the riding of the Conservative Party critic for the Wheat Board have consistently voted for a pro-CWB Wheat Board Director. “It is unfortunate that Mr. David Anderson, of the Conservative Party, will not represent his constituents and support the CWB,” concluded Wells.

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