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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NFU CHALLENGES DAVID ANDERSON TO DEBATE CWB ADVANTAGES

The National Farmers Union (NFU) has issued a challenge to David Anderson to a public debate on the advantages of the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB).

In a letter addressed to Anderson, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and the Minister Responsible for the CWB, NFU President Stewart Wells outlined several details of the debate.

The NFU would host the public debate in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, which is located in Mr. Anderson's home constituency of Cypress Hills-Grasslands. The event should also occur prior to the reopening of debate in the House of Commons on Bill C-300, a Conservative Private Member's Bill introduced earlier this month. Bill C-300 would severely weaken or destroy the CWB marketing system for farmers' grain.

"Mr. Anderson and several of his colleagues in the governing party have been making ridiculous comments about the CWB, and now we have to find out if these MPs are accountable to anyone besides themselves," stated Wells.

Earlier this spring, the NFU published a document showing the CWB puts an extra \$2 million each and every day into the pockets of western Canadian farmers. This \$2 million per day is over and above what farmers would get from the grain companies if the CWB was weakened or destroyed.

"Mr. Anderson has run away from a previous NFU challenge on another topic," concluded Wells. "Will he turn tail and run away again? He might. But we will know soon enough. If Mr. Anderson is afraid to debate the issues of the CWB in a public format, it would send a signal to other Conservative MPs that he is misleading them as well."

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