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national farmers union
In Union Is Strength

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NFU REGIONAL CONVENTION IN ONANOLE, MANITOBA JULY 15

Protecting the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) single desk and boosting farmers' market power will be the main issues on the agenda when members of the National Farmers Union (NFU) from across Manitoba meet in Onanole, Manitoba on July 15.

The NFU Manitoba regional convention will be held at the Onanole Seniors Centre Hall beginning at 1:00 PM. All farmers are welcome to attend.

NFU Manitoba Coordinator Fred Tait says this year's farm income situation is likely to be one of the worst in recent history for the province's farm families. Earlier this year, Agriculture Canada data indicated the average Manitoba farmer's net income from the markets would be *negative* \$37,000. While realized net farm incomes are at record lows, corporate agribusiness profits are at record highs, noted Tait. "This is a function of corporate concentration in the marketplace. Farmers need more market power in order to retain a higher percentage of the wealth they produce."

Speakers at the NFU Manitoba regional convention include:

- ◆ Butch Harder, an elected Director of the Manitoba Canola Growers Association
- ◆ Dave Core of the Canadian Alliance of Pipeline Landowners' Associations
- ◆ Bill Toews, an elected Director of the Canadian Wheat Board
- ◆ Walter Kolisnyk, Chair of Manitoba Crop Insurance
- ◆ Terry Boehm, Vice-President of the National Farmers Union

In addition, resolutions put forward at the meeting will be debated. Elections will be held for two Manitoba representatives to the NFU Board of Directors as well as Women's and Youth Advisory Committee members.

The NFU is a nation-wide, direct membership organization made up of farm families. The NFU promotes policies which promote environmental stewardship and which strengthen the family-farm system of food production.

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