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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**JUNE 27, 2007**

**NFU TO HOLD SASKATCHEWAN REGIONAL CONVENTION JULY 4 AND 5:**

Farmers from across Saskatchewan will be meeting at Kenosee Lake Provincial Park near Carlyle next week to focus on grains, livestock, and transportation issues.

The Saskatchewan regional convention of the National Farmers Union (NFU) is slated for July 4 and 5. The meeting begins at 1:30 PM on July 4.

Don Kelsey of Choiceland, NFU Saskatchewan Regional Coordinator, said Saskatchewan family farmers are feeling the effects of the ongoing farm income crisis. “Last year, many areas of the province suffered weather-related disasters,” he said. “And this year the situation is even worse. On top of the adverse weather conditions, we’re also faced with a serious assault by the federal government on the Canadian Wheat Board and other orderly marketing systems.”

Kelsey said farmers’ economic power in the marketplace needs to be strengthened. He pointed out the average Saskatchewan farmer’s net income from the markets last year was negative \$27,000. At the same time, corporate agribusiness profits are at record or near-record levels.

Speakers at the NFU Saskatchewan regional convention include:

- ◆ **Rod Flaman**, farmer-elected Director of the Canadian Wheat Board;
- ◆ **Terry Boehm**, NFU Vice-President;
- ◆ **Blair McClintock**, Executive-Director of the Sask. Soil Conservation Association;
- ◆ **Bill Gehl**, Western Grains Research Foundation;
- ◆ **Gene Kessler**, Saskatchewan Organic Livestock Association;
- ◆ **Ed Zsombor**, Director of the Saskatchewan Shortline Railway Advisory Program;

In addition, resolutions put forward at the meeting will be debated and elections will be held. The NFU is a nation-wide, direct-membership organization made up of farm families. The NFU advocates policies which promote environmental stewardship and strengthen the family-farm system of food production.

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