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national farmers union
In Union Is Strength

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 28, 2009

**FARMERS AND OTHERS MOBILIZING ACROSS NORTH AMERICA TO
REFORM LIVESTOCK MARKETS**

The National Farmers Union (NFU) is meeting with farmers, organizations, and policy makers across Alberta this week. The meetings are part of a larger project of building a mobilization across Canada and across North America to change the way business is done in the cattle sector.

Canadian cattle farmers are facing a chronic price crisis. Packers are distorting and destroying markets through mergers, captive supply, buying up auction markets and a host of other strategies.

The NFU, however, is helping build a North American coalition to push back packer and retailer power and push up prices for cattle farmers.

Positive signs are emerging across the continent. President Obama's agenda for agriculture features a commitment to "pass a packer ban". The President's website said, "When meat packers own livestock they can manipulate prices and discriminate against independent farmers."

"There is rapidly building pressure for change," said NFU Alberta Coordinator Jan Slomp. "The U.S. Government is on side, farmers are on side, and the rapidly growing coalition of rural and urban groups in Canada are on side. Farmers are demanding that federal and provincial governments come on side. Change is coming."

The NFU is holding meetings with farmers across Alberta this week and is meeting with Alberta government officials today in Edmonton.

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