



## **The National Farmers Union in New Brunswick**

### **L'Union nationale des fermiers au Nouveau-Brunswick**

NFU National Office/UNF Bureau national – 306-652-9465 – [www.nfu.ca](http://www.nfu.ca)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **NFU CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF WORKING FOR FARM FAMILIES**

Several New Brunswick farmers will attend the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the National Farmers Union (NFU) at its national convention in Ottawa November 26-28.

The NFU is a Canada-wide, non-partisan, democratic, direct-membership organization made up of family farmers who produce all types of commodities. In NB members are working to promote the consumption of local agricultural products and to preserve a family-farm based food system.

NFU in NB president Jean-Eudes Chiasson of Rogersville and National Director Betty Brown of Summerfield will join delegates from across Canada in meeting with Members of Parliament during the morning of Thursday, November 26. Issues being discussed with MPs of all parties include:

1. The need for immediate action on the livestock crisis;
2. The necessity of safeguards to prevent market collapse as a result of contamination from unregistered Genetically-Modified (GM) seed varieties;
3. The need to ensure farmers' marketing systems – including supply-management and the Canadian Wheat Board single desk - are not traded away at the World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations;
4. The need to retain and enhance the federal prison farm program.

The NFU convention will feature the unveiling of the Campaign for New Farmers, an initiative of the NFU Youth. In recognition of the increasingly bilingual nature of the

NFU membership, for the first time simultaneous translation will be offered throughout the convention.

Among the keynote speakers at the convention are Pat Mooney, Executive-Director of the Ottawa-based ETC Group, and Dr. Shiv Chopra, a courageous former Health Canada employee who refused to compromise public safety.

The convention will include elections for all national Presidential positions. NFU President Stewart Wells is stepping down after leading the organization for 8 years. NFU Women's President Colleen Ross, who has held the position for three years, is also stepping down. The NFU convention will also be the forum for several dozen policy resolutions to be debated by NFU delegates from across the country.

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