

National Office
2717 Wentz Ave.
Saskatoon, Sask., S7K 4B6
Tel (306) 652-9465
Fax (306) 664-6226



national farmers union
In Union Is Strength

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STEWART WELLS NEW NFU PRESIDENT

REGINA, Sask.—Stewart Wells was acclaimed President today by NFU delegates at their Convention in Regina. Wells takes over from Cory Ollikka who chose not to run for another term.

Stewart Wells and his wife Terry Toews farm near Swift Current where they grow grains, oilseeds, pulses, and forages. Stewart's grandfather homesteaded the farm in 1910. Wells has been a long-time NFU member and has served on the NFU Board and Executive for the past four years. He was active in the struggle to prevent the privatization of Sask. Wheat Pool. Wells has an Agricultural Engineering degree from the University of Saskatchewan.

In his acceptance speech, Wells stressed the need for farm organization such as the NFU to work together with a wide range of rural and urban-based groups and organizations. "Our success depends on our ability to work together," said Wells.

As an example, Wells noted the NFU's work on genetically modified (GM) wheat. Working with other farm groups, along with urban-based health, citizens', and environmental organizations, the NFU has enjoyed tremendous success in raising awareness around the issue of GM wheat. Working with a similar broad coalition in the 1990s, the NFU won a ten-year struggle to block Monsanto's efforts to introduce genetically-modified bovine growth hormone into Canada.

Shannon Storey was acclaimed and will continue to serve as NFU Women's President. Martha Robbins was acclaimed Youth President and will also serve another term.

The NFU Convention continues in Regina and Indian Head until Thursday evening.

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For More Information:

Stewart Wells, NFU President: (306) 773-6852
Shannon Storey, NFU Women's President: (306) 477-8803
Martha Robbins, NFU Youth President: (306) 493-2569
Darrin Qualman, Executive Secretary: (306) 652-9465

Wells, Storey, Robbins, and Qualman are at the Travelodge Hotel in Regina at the NFU Convention until December 1. Contact them at (306) 586-3443