
News Release

For immediate release

WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ASSISTS N.B. FARMERS

PERTH-ANDOVER, New Brunswick, November 18, 2005 – Andy Savoy, Member of Parliament for Tobique-Mactaquac, on behalf of Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Andy Mitchell joined New Brunswick Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture Minister David Alward today in announcing a \$1.9 million federal-provincial program assisting the New Brunswick agriculture industry manage, conserve and enhance existing water resources.

“Canada succeeds when all of its parts are strong, that’s why we need sustainable rural farming communities,” said Mr. Savoy. “A healthy water supply is fundamental to the agriculture industry’s prosperity and the Canada-New Brunswick Water Management Program provides the means to manage water resources.

The objective of the program is to ensure that New Brunswick farmers have access to secure supplies of good quality water to meet their current and future needs and are able to manage these water resources effectively.

“Good water management practices such as drainage and irrigation are critical to improving the productivity of agricultural land,” said Minister Alward. “This program will assist farmers in making sound investments in enhanced water management that will lead to greater prosperity and competitiveness in the agriculture and agri-food industry of the province.”

The Government of Canada is investing \$1.8 million and the New Brunswick provincial government is contributing \$100,000 in the form of in-kind technical support towards the implementation of the program. Federal assistance for the program comes from the National Water Supply Expansion Program, a \$60-million initiative supporting the Environment chapter of the Agricultural Policy Framework.

For more information on:

- The Canada-New Brunswick Water Management Program, visit any office of the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.
- Environmental Farm Plan in New Brunswick, call the Agriculture Producers Association of N.B. at 506 452-8101 or the Fédération des agriculteurs et agricultrices francophones du N.-B. at 506 735-4886

- The transformation of the agriculture industry, visit Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Web site at www.agr.gc.ca or call 1 866 367-8506.

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