CWB

The Canadian Wheat Board
La Commission canadienne du blé

September 8, 2006

The Honourable Chuck Strahl, P.C., M.P.   **Via Facsimile: (613) 995-5621**
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and
Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Sir John Carling Building
930 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5

Dear Minister Strahl:

Thank you for your letter, faxed to our offices on September 5th, extending an invitation to the CWB to participate in the technical task force that you are assembling to recommend the best way to establish a voluntary CWB.

Given the potential significance that the activities and recommendations of this task force may hold for the economic well-being of western Canadian farmers, the decision to participate as a member of the task force is one that our board of directors takes very seriously. We appreciate that you have outlined basic terms of reference. However, there are a number of points which require further clarification before our board makes this decision. CWB personnel has already made these inquiries of your Chief of Staff.

- What other individuals, organizations and/or government representatives have been identified as potential participants on the task force?

- What are the timelines for the task force's work?

- What processes (farmer consultation or otherwise) do you anticipate following the conclusion of the task force's work?

- Will the task force's recommendations be made public prior to the conclusion of the current CWB director election?

Our board will discuss this matter as soon as we receive your response.

Yours truly,

Ken Ritter
Chair, board of directors

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c: Mr. Laurie Throness, Chief of Staff, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
      Via Facsimile: (613) 759-1081