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News release

MINISTER STRAHL ANNOUNCES MEETING WITH FARMERS ON MARKETING CHOICE FOR WHEAT AND BARLEY

OTTAWA, Ontario, July 13, 2006 - The Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and Minister for the Canadian Wheat Board, today announced that he will participate in a roundtable meeting to be chaired by David L. Anderson, Parliamentary Secretary for the Canadian Wheat Board on July 27.

This Roundtable will hear ideas from a cross-section of western Canadian farmers, stakeholder organizations and others who support the advancement of marketing choice for farmers as a means for creating greater financial returns.

"Canada's new government campaigned on the idea that western Canadian grain producers should have a choice whether to market their products through the CWB," said Minister Strahl. "Our invited experts will help chart a path towards a successful marketing choice alternative that will also ensure a strong and profitable CWB continues to serve farmers in the future."

The ideas presented and discussed at this meeting will contribute to delivering on the new government's campaign promise to implement dual-marketing for western grain producers.

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For more information, media can contact:

Media Relations Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada 613-759-7972 1-866-345-7972

Jeff Howard **Press Secretary** Minister Strahl's Office 613-759-1059



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News releases index: choose a year and choose a month.

2006 or choose a year - November or choose a month - Go

Français | Contact Us | Help | Search | Top of Page

Date modified: 2006-03-23

Top of page Important Notices



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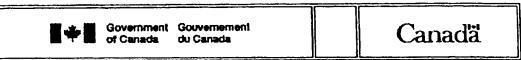
POLICY ROUNDTABLE ON MARKETING OPTIONS

Participants

Canadian Federation of Independent Business Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities Inland Terminal Association **British Columbia Grain Producers Association** Western Barley Growers Association Brad Hanmer (farmer) Curtis Sims (farmer) Brian Kriz (farmer) Ross Ravelli (Peace Bloc Farmer) Dr. Kurt Klein (University of Lethbridge) Dr. Paul Earl (University of Manitoba) Alberta Grain Commission **Grain Vision** Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association Canadian Chamber of Commerce Winnipeg Commodity Exchange Greg Porozni (farmer) Alberta Government Alberta Barley Commission **Dwayne Anderson (farmer)** Jim Chatenay (farmer) Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan George Morris Centre Frontier Centre for Public Policy JRG Consulting

The governments of Manitoba, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food are expected to have observers at the meeting.

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Français | Contact Us | Help |

Search | Top of Page Date modified: 2006-03-23 Top of page Important Notices