



MEDIA RELEASE

Manitoba producers' votes are in on CWB wheat and barley marketing

Brandon, MB - Jan. 16, 2007 – The results of the 2006 vote asking Manitoba wheat and barley producers if they support the Canadian Wheat Board's single desk system have been released today by the vote coordinator, Meyers Norris Penny (MNP).

The results of the vote are as follows:

	<u>Barley Ballot</u>	<u>Wheat Ballot</u>
Number of Ballots Issued	11,371	11,371
Number of Ballots Returned	7,434	7,434
Response Rate	65.4%	65.4%
Number of Rejected and Spoiled Ballots	203	86
Number of Valid Ballots Cast	<u>7,231</u>	<u>7,348</u>
<u>Barley Ballot</u>		
Maintain Single Desk System	4,469	61.8%
Implement Open Market System	<u>2,762</u>	<u>38.2%</u>
Total Valid Ballots Cast	<u>7,231</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<u>Wheat Ballot</u>		
Maintain Single Desk System	5,106	69.5%
Implement Open Market System	<u>2,242</u>	<u>30.5%</u>
Total Valid Ballots Cast	<u>7,348</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

The vote asked Manitoba wheat and barley producers to vote on the future of the Canadian Wheat Board using a mail-in voting system. The overall ballot response rate in this vote was 65 percent.

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A total of 11,371 ballots were issued to producers and 7,434 ballots were returned to MNP by the postmark deadline of January 5, 2007.

The vote was open to all Manitoba producers who grew wheat or barley in the last two years. The voters' list was generated by the Province of Manitoba using the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation production insurance database. Declarations were available to Manitoba wheat and barley producers that didn't automatically receive a ballot.

As Vote Coordinator, Meyers Norris Penny was responsible for development and implementation of ballot security and independently received and tabulated the ballots to ensure that the integrity of the voting process was maintained.

About MNP

MNP is a chartered accounting and business advisory firm with over 70 offices across Western Canada. MNP provides a complete range of financial taxation, business and agriculture advisory services to meet its clients' personal and corporate needs. Service to agriculture and agribusiness has been a focal point of MNP's business philosophy since they opened their doors in 1945.

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