

MEDIA RELEASE

Wheat Growers Congratulate New CWB Directors

December 16, 2002: Following results of the Canadian Wheat Board director elections, the Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association expressed congratulations and best wishes to the successful candidates

“We congratulate the newly elected directors, and wish them well in performing a very important job. People who are willing to take on the responsibility for several billion dollars of farmer funds deserve our respect,” says Wheat Grower President Art Enns. “All of the candidates are to be applauded for their conviction, and their willingness to commit their time and energy to the democratic process.”

Enns also expressed concern about the low voter turnout. Only 27,162 ballots were cast in the election, representing 43.4% of eligible voters. Despite the disappointing turnout, Enns was encouraged by the fact that 40% of those participating in the election voted in favour of marketing choice for farmers. His real concern is with the number of producers who didn't cast their vote, and he believes that the Wheat Growers can play a vital role in helping to increase voter turn out for the next election.

“The Wheat Growers will continue to work toward choice. A large number of voters have indicated that marketing choice is still their priority,” says Enns. “But our biggest contribution will be in working toward increased participation. Whatever opinion you hold about wheat and barley marketing in western Canada, you should believe in it enough to cast your vote.”

The Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association is a not for profit, voluntary farm organization that works with industry partners toward innovative, farmer-driven solutions for western Canadian agriculture.

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