



For Immediate Release

May 9, 2005

Wheat Growers Pleased to See Increased Competition at West Coast

The Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association (WCWGA) is delighted to see the sale by Agricore United of a Vancouver port terminal to Terminal One, a consortium of five farmer-owned inland terminals.

“This move will enhance competition for farmers’ grain at the west coast,” explains Cherilyn Jolly-Nagel, President of the WCWGA. “It also gives farmers a greater stake in the value-chain.”

The WCWGA congratulates the five farmer-owned terminals for the foresight and determination in making this investment a reality. “Thirty years ago, the Wheat Growers were key players in promoting independent farmer-owned inland terminals,” enthuses Jolly-Nagel. “We are pleased to see that these terminals continue to be important choices for prairie farmers.”

The Association also congratulates Agricore United for co-operating with the consortium in putting together this deal. “Selling this terminal to a new player – actually 5 new players – demonstrates its willingness to work in the best interests of the farm community,” says Jolly-Nagel.

“Having this additional port outlet should lessen competition concerns and pave the way for increased Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) tendering,” says Jolly-Nagel. “In fact, the CWB will now have good incentive to acquire all of its export supplies at port position. Such a move would allow the Board to focus exclusively on grain marketing and leave the grain transportation details to those who are better-placed to handle the logistics.”

The Wheat Growers note that removing the CWB from grain transportation would avoid costly mistakes, such as occurred earlier this year when the CWB shipped wheat from port terminals in Churchill and Baie-Comeau back across country to meet grain sales out of Vancouver.

The WCWGA, an independent producer organization, has spent 35 years bringing forth innovative farmer-driven solutions and will continue to lobby on behalf of forward thinking, progressive producers in an effort to make farming sustainable and profitable.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact,
Cherilyn Jolly-Nagel
President, WCWGA
(306) 354-2517

Innovative, farmer-driven solutions.