



For Immediate Release

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Wheat Growers Supports Move to End CWB Self-Promotion

The Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association supports the federal government's decision to take steps toward removing the Canadian Wheat Board's CEO. The Wheat Growers hope this action will help end the CWB's politically partisan conduct and get it to re-focus on its marketing mandate.

"The federal government had no choice," says Cheryl Jolly-Nagel, President of the Wheat Growers. "Mr. Measner and other members of his Board have repeatedly failed to recognize that the CEO should not be using his position as a political platform."

Over the past several months, the CWB and its CEO have actively campaigned for the retention of its monopoly over western farmers. Given its compulsory nature, the Wheat Growers maintain the CWB has no business engaging in such self-promotional activities.

"The CWB should be focussed on getting the best returns for our grain," say Jolly-Nagel. "It's an abuse of its monopoly power to be using my money and that of other farmers to promote political views, regardless of their nature."

The Wheat Growers note the CWB board of directors shoulders the blame for the possible dismissal of Mr. Measner, given that the board either instructed him to take an active political role or failed to take action to stop such activities.

"It's a little late for the CWB board to be calling for Mr. Measner to be retained," says Jolly-Nagel. "If they felt he was such a valuable asset, then they should have told him to concentrate on the business and leave the politicking to others."

In a press release issued on November 29, the Wheat Growers called on the federal government to hold the CWB accountable for its blatantly biased views. The Wheat Growers cited several examples where the CWB violated its own election period code of conduct and ignored the government directive of October 5.

"The Wheat Growers hope this move will help stop the CWB's political activism," says Jolly-Nagel, "although true accountability will only occur when the CWB becomes voluntary and prairie farmers are free to sell our grain to the buyer of our choice."

For further comment, please contact:

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