



For Immediate Release

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Wheat Growers Congratulate new Minister on announcement of Appeal

The Wheat Growers are supportive of the Federal Government's announcement to appeal the July 31st court ruling that stripped western farmers of their opportunity to capture high barley prices on the open market. In a joint position paper, the Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association and the Western Barley Growers Association outlined steps which the government can take in order to make good on their campaign promise of marketing choice. Appealing the court ruling was part of those recommendations.

"We believe there are strong grounds on which to appeal and are happy to hear Minister Ritz will continue to follow through," says Cherilyn Jolly-Nagel, President of the Wheat Growers. "We are considering our own opportunity to be involved in the next round of court proceedings."

Also outlined in the joint position paper are other options the government must consider while farmers wait on the appeal process. Harmonizing regulations across Canada including the issuance of no-cost export permits is a logical next step.

"It's unbelievable that in a so-called democratic country, only farmers who live in the prairies are handcuffed to this age old system," says Jolly-Nagel. "We take no issues with those individuals who may choose to pool their resources but no two farms are exactly alike and therefore no one system can work for everyone!"

"We're still excited about the opportunities for producers under a free market," says Jolly-Nagel. "The Wheat Growers will not give up on our firm conviction that farm business decisions should be made by the farmer, not by this patronizing entity that is long past its expiry date!"

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For further comment, please contact:

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