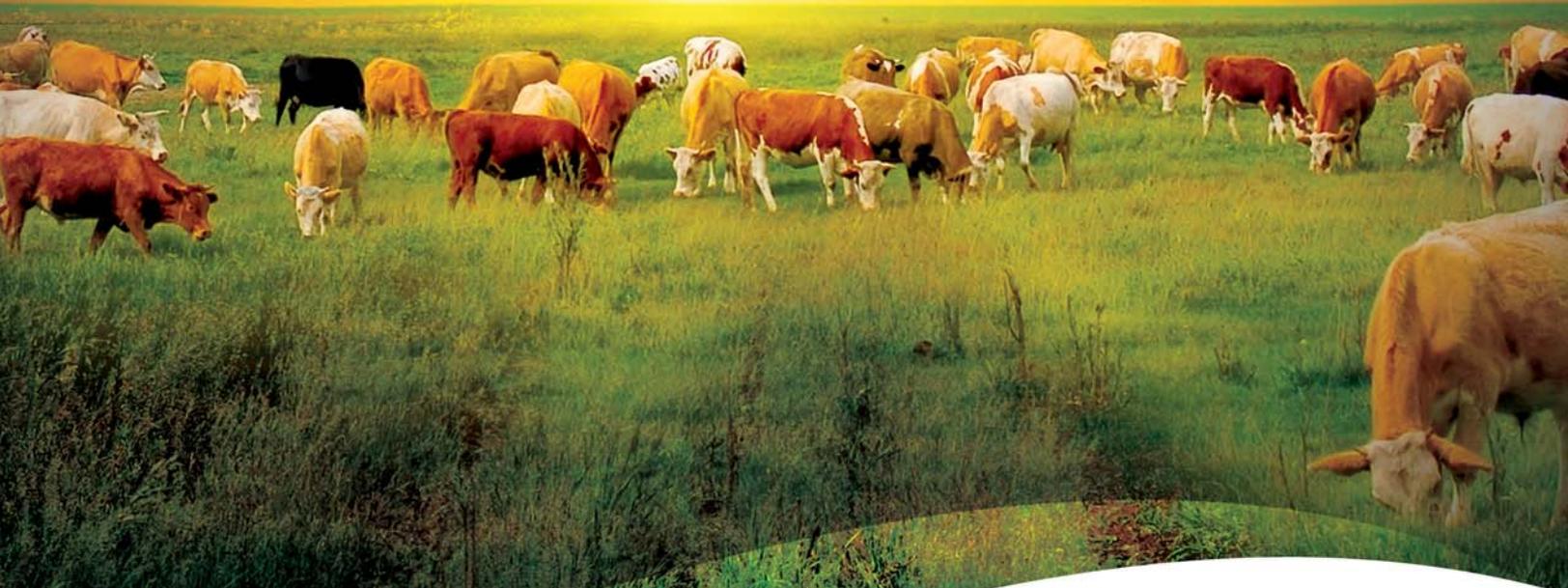




April 27, 2012

NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY THE MANITOBA BEEF PRODUCERS



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MBP on Manitoba Budget

Manitoba Beef Producers (MBP) has a mixed response to the 2012 Manitoba Budget. MBP hoped to see provisions which were not mentioned in the budget such as cattle price insurance, an effective environmental goods and services program and a herd protection program.

MBP was pleased that there was a commitment in the budget to the forage restoration program for pasture and hayland flooded in the spring of 2011.

“This is a critical program for those still suffering from the 2011 flood,” said Ray Armbruster, MBP president. “Flooded land will take years to rehabilitate. MBP will continue to work with the provincial government to restore flooded pasture and hayland.”

The budget included an announcement on a “Nutrient Management Tax Credit” that will be a component of the *Save the Lake Winnipeg Act*, which was introduced in June 2011. MBP believes producers will be confronted with additional costs to adhere to the manure/nutrient management regulations coming into force in 2013 and this tax credit may assist producers with costs incurred with the engineering, design and installation of nutrient management equipment.

“We hope that the \$300,000 allocated to tax credits in the program provides equal opportunity for all livestock producers,” said Armbruster.

MBP welcomes the budget increase to Infrastructure and Transportation and encourages the government to restore provincial highways within the Shoal Lakes complex, Lake Manitoba region, the southwest part of the province and other areas in which provincial highways were damaged by the 2011 flood.

Though many beef producer priorities were not addressed in the budget, MBP will continue to work on those key issues and continue to push for the province to bring these initiatives forward for the good of everyone in the beef production chain.

Continued on page 2.

Upcoming Events

May 23: Dr. Temple Grandin speaking on *Animal Welfare: The Right Thing to Do*, Brandon, MB. Sold Out.

June 15 to 24: *Touch the Farm* at The Red River Exhibition.

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Trust Fund Donations

Memorial donations may be made in memory of Major Jay Fox to a trust fund for his children Devon, Charlee, Porter and Major. Donations may be made at any branch of TD Canada Trust.

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BIXS Provider

Did you know that MBP is a [Third Party Service Provider](#) for the [Beef InfoXchange System](#) (BIXS)? MBP will provide workshops on the system in the near future. Contact MBP for more information on upcoming learning workshops at info@mbbeef.ca.

Budget continued

Other items:

- Gas for your car and fuel for commercial transport trucks will be going up by 2.5 cents in tax, for a total of 14 cents per litre, and a new 3 cents per litre tax on motive fuel has been introduced. This new tax applies to previously exempt marked gasoline (purple fuel), but does not apply to marked diesel.
- In addition to the fuel taxes, the province will be applying a sales tax on property insurance. This means that producers could be subject to a 7 per cent sales tax on insuring their farm properties.
- The School Tax on farmland was not eliminated. MBP is waiting for this promised change.

There are many priorities for Manitoba's beef producers that were not mentioned in the budget. MBP included the following issues in our provincial budget document that was presented to various government departments:

1. The implementation of a zero-till program, including equipment purchase, to assist in the rehabilitation of land damaged by standing water as a result of the 2011 flood.
2. Funding in place for the appointment of a TB (tuberculosis) Coordinator to oversee the eradication of bovine TB in the Riding Mountain Eradication Area.
3. Support for a TB mustering fee to help offset the financial losses that our producers continue to face due to the mandated Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) testing.
4. Full-time predator removal officers, under the Predator Control Program, to deal with problem predators in areas of high predation.
5. Implementation of a Cattle Price Insurance pilot project commencing in fall 2012, in which premiums are cost-shared with the producer and the government.

With further review of the costs and benefits of the budget, MBP will continue to lobby and investigate various options to obtain the available dollars.

EXperience CATTLE TALES

at this year's



This interactive exhibit takes guests on the journey of beef from pasture to plate.

Join us from June 15 to 24 as we tell the important story of the Manitoba beef industry.

More information at
redriverex.com

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