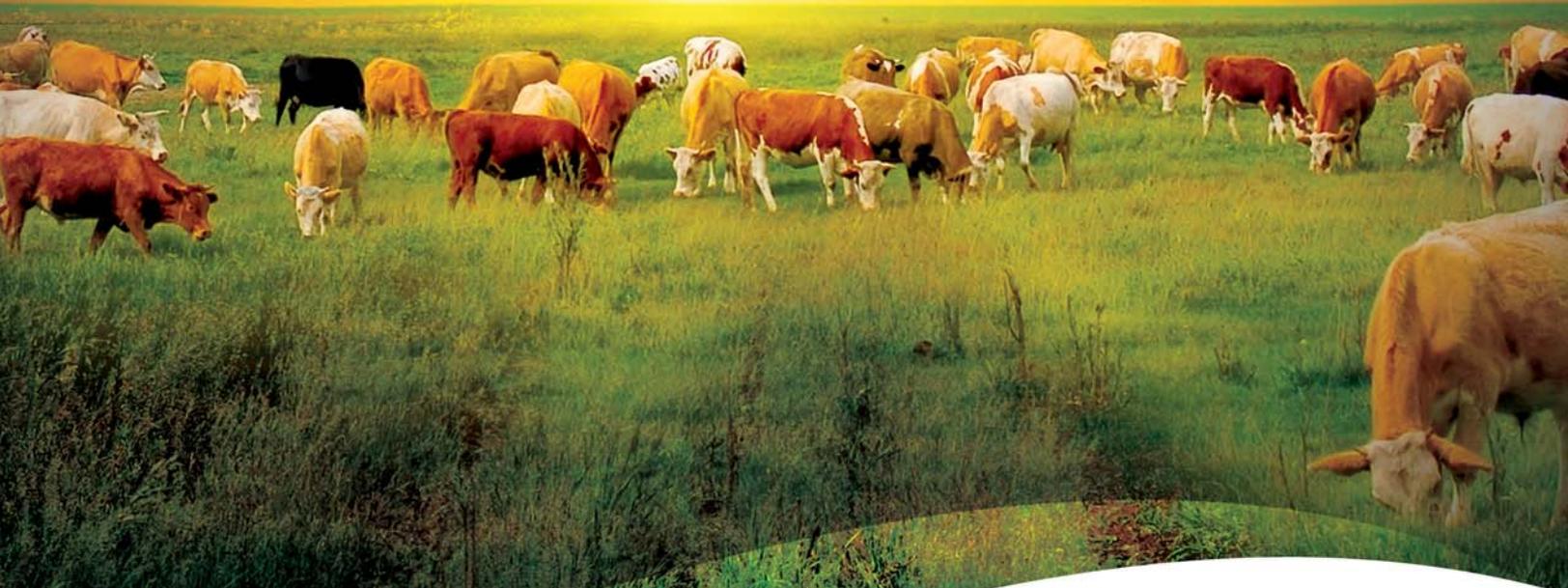




March 15, 2013

NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY THE MANITOBA BEEF PRODUCERS



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154 Paramount Road, | Winnipeg, MB Canada | R2X 2W3
T: 204.772.4542 | F: 204.774.3264
E: info@mbbeef.ca

VISIT US AT: www.mbbeef.ca

Governments Must Compensate For Impacts of Flood 2011

MBP continues to call on both the federal and provincial government to work together to deliver immediate compensation to Manitoba producers still suffering as a result of the 2011 flood.

The impact of the man-made flood of 2011 around Lake Manitoba is not over. The flood has devastated businesses, producers, homeowners, communities and entire municipalities. The losses were sustained when water was diverted to protect other parts of the province. The people affected understand why this was done, but they deserve to be treated fairly for their losses.

Since the onset of the flood, MBP has repeatedly asked governments for swift delivery of meaningful programs. Governments promised to deliver compensation. Governments indicated that producers would not stand alone—but that is exactly how they feel today.

MBP, and most producers, appreciate the programs that were developed for 2011. However, producers were promised multi-year assistance and that has not been delivered. Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives estimated more than 400,000 acres remained flooded in the spring of 2012. And this does not account for the land that was unproductive because of the damage done in 2011. Producers once again had to move their cattle to productive pastures. They have had to buy hay to preserve their herds. They have been expecting help with these costs because it was promised to them.

Producers recognized over a year ago that programs were needed for 2012, especially related to feed. MBP approached the federal and provincial governments with direct requests for forage shortfall compensation and funding to cover the cost of moving both feed and animals. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Upcoming Events

To March 17: MBP is at Agriculture in the City, The Forks Market, Winnipeg aginthecity.ca

March 25-30: Visit MBP's booth in Thru the Farm Gate at the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, Brandon www.brandonfairs.com

April 6: Watch MBP's Beef Expert Adriana Barros on Great Tastes of Manitoba, 6:30 p.m. on CTV! www.foodmanitoba.ca

Visit Manitoba Beef Producers in Thru the Farm Gate at the

Royal Manitoba Winter Fair
March 25-30, 2013,

Keystone Centre, Brandon
Open 11 a.m. to 8 pm. daily!



Flood compensation continued

Programs have not been forthcoming. Promises were made that aid would be fair, delivered swiftly and that there would be ongoing help through the recovery process. These commitments must be fulfilled.

Producers need a clear signal the federal and provincial governments are committed to working together to deliver programs to help producers combat the flood-related problems that spilled into 2012, and to get the recovery process moving.

Just a few short weeks ago, over 300 producers and landowners gathered in Marquette to directly demonstrate their need to federal and provincial politicians. MBP applauds the political leaders who accepted the invitation of the Lake Manitoba Flood Rehabilitation Committee. But the attendance needs to be followed up with real action. Frankly, that action should have occurred many months ago.

MBP again requests that the federal and provincial governments work with all affected by the man-made flood on Lake Manitoba to honor and to fulfill the commitments that were made to the people who accepted flood water so that others would stay dry.

A commitment is also needed to get a second outlet built so the devastation is not repeated. Let us not forget that these individuals around Lake Manitoba carried the brunt of protecting the urban regions of the province, saving both the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba many millions in additional flood compensation claims.

Changes to MASC Insurance: Visit MASC's [website](#) for what's new in 2013 and 2014.

Day 1 at 



MBP's Karen Emilson at the MBP booth along with the McRae ladies visiting from their farm near St. Andrews



Agriculture in the Classroom – Manitoba's Executive Director Johanne Ross quizzes students attending the ag speaking competition