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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Manitoba Beef Producers Applauds New Federal Bovine TB Initiative

WINNIPEG – Manitoba Beef Producers (MBP) welcomes a new bovine tuberculosis (TB) initiative announced today by the federal government.

The five-year initiative will build upon existing monitoring and management activities, including the development of a new traceability tool to better utilize data at the processing stage in the beef chain.

“Manitoba Beef Producers thanks the federal government for its support for this important research initiative,” said Heinz Reimer, MBP president. “Manitoba’s beef industry depends on domestic and international marketing opportunities and it is critical that we continue to work on the bovine TB issue and maintain Manitoba’s TB-free status.”

This bovine TB initiative is crucial to moving toward a time when testing is no longer required on live cattle and the disease is ultimately eradicated.

“This federal investment means we have another tool to help meet the mandate of the Riding Mountain Eradication Area (RMEA),” said Reimer. “Beef producers in the RMEA continue to work diligently as part of the bovine TB surveillance program and we will continue to work collaboratively with governments and other stakeholders on their behalf.”

MBP welcomes the renewal of Dr. Allan Preston’s role as Bovine Tuberculosis Co-ordinator. MBP appreciates Dr. Preston’s work to lead the effort to eliminate bovine TB from the RMEA and thanks him for his ongoing work on this file.

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Manitoba Beef Producers is the exclusive voice of the beef industry in Manitoba. Our role and mission is to represent our beef producers through communication, research, advocacy and education. Manitoba Beef Producers represents 8,000 beef producers across the province.

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