

## MANITOBA BEEF PRODUCERS

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# NEWS RELEASE

## For immediate release

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## Manitoba Beef Producers Supports Decision to Halt Collection of MCEC Levy

Manitoba Government's commitment to community pastures, insurance-based products and other initiatives aimed at beef sector welcomed

**WINNIPEG** – Manitoba Beef Producers (MBP) supports a decision that will see the collection of the \$2 per head cattle enhancement levy end effective September 1, 2013.

"We support the recommendation of the Manitoba Cattle Enhancement Council to end the levy collection," said Trevor Atchison, MBP president. "Manitoba's beef producers have called for this decision through resolutions at our district meetings and annual general meetings and MBP has made this request known to the provincial government. It is time to close this chapter in Manitoba's beef sector and move forward on key priority issues."

"MBP is pleased with Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Minister Ron Kostyshyn's clearly stated commitment to other initiatives that will benefit Manitoba's beef producers, including maintaining community pastures, work on trade issues like country of origin labeling (COOL), the development of insurance-based products aimed at the beef sector, and investments in research. These are key priorities for our members," added Atchison.

Atchison noted that "MBP continues to support the expansion of federally-inspected slaughter capacity in Manitoba provided there is a viable business plan."

Manitoba Beef Producers looks forward to a transparent and orderly wind down of the Manitoba Cattle Enhancement Council and a swift and clear indication of how producer monies remaining with that organization will be handled.

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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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